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AN '08 RETROSPECTIVE...

A year ago, right at this time, we moved from 4 Market Street (our home for 10 years) to big, new 222 Dorset Street. On the eve of New Year's, my son, Eli, and I stood in our new entryway wondering when would be a good moment to open the doors. Our store was about 85% ready — lots of product on the shelves, but workmen still in the aisles with tons to do. At that moment, we noticed a man standing in the entry with a shopping basket... "Are you open?" Eli and I looked at each other and figured, THIS must be it! The time to open was NOW. So thank you, whoever you were. You pushed us over the edge and helped us take our plunge.

Since then it's been a year of growth, steep learning curves and figuring it out as we go. Our store has made a lot of people happy. Some people have wondered why we did things the way we did. And we've learned patience, fortitude and more patience. Our staff has risen to the occasion with incredible skill and dedication. Our customers have braved ladders and out-of-stock merchandise. It feels like a joint effort by all of us to make this thing work!

Today, things are calmer and the store is beginning to look like home. We have ironed out a lot of the wrinkles, but we're always looking for YOUR feedback. Please let us know what still needs attention, what more you'd like to see and what could be better. Without your feedback, it's like driving without headlights! Thanks for a great first year at 222 Dorset Street!

Love,
Katy

P.S. ... A quick note about where we live and the community we've created... Even after living here for over 35 years, I am still aware of how wonderful things are here in the Champlain Valley. Not only is this an awesomely beautiful place, but we've also got a great little community where a talented, diverse bunch of people make life vibrant, colorful and happy. I feel this every time I return to our area whether I'm driving over the Champlain Bridge or flying in. I always experience a surge of joy knowing I'm coming back to a place I love to call home. I think a lot of us agree about this, and that makes our community beautiful in so many ways.

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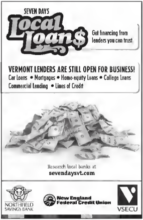
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COVER DESIGN: ANDREW SAWTELL. COVER IMAGE: JON ADAMS.

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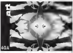

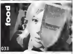

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PERFECT PARSNIPS

Suzanne Podhaizer obviously isn't an aficionado of parsnips ["Beet the System," December 3]. I discovered them only about a year or so ago, and they are one of my favorite vegetables now. Root candy. They do not, however, need to be peeled to be eaten. (I actually like them sliced thin in a salad, too.)

My favorite recipe is very simple. Cut parsnips into 1 to 1 1/2 inch chunks (shorter at the thicker end of the root, longer at the tip) and parboil in salted water for 10 minutes. Toss with olive oil and roast — cut side down, if possible — at 350 to 375 degrees for 30 minutes until they are golden brown and as sweet as candy. Salt lightly and enjoy.

You can prepare brussels sprouts the same way, but cut them in half lengthwise after parboiling. Toss in oil and arrange cut side down. They come out creamy, crunchy and sweet — barely recognizable as the horrible boiled things I was fed as a child.

Marcia Ancker
WINOOSKI

PROG'S PROGRESS

Thanks to *Seven Days* for sponsoring the Democrat-Progressive forum [on December 4 at Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center]. It's nice to see that the publication that has historically pooh-poohed Progressive candidacies while supporting Democrats can at least acknowledge the Progs' right to exist!

We need a third, noncorporate party in Vermont. Even if the Democrats are being "pulled to the left" by the sheer presence of the Progressive Party, we should not be fooled into thinking that is a permanent state of affairs. The Democratic Party has shown again and again on the national level that it needs influence from the left to remain even marginally relevant to its constituency — or at least the "working class" constituency to which it kowtows during its election campaigns.

Take the Democrats' most recent national success: The election of Barack Obama is a clear-cut example of a political contest successfully absconding with "liberal" votes (not to mention hundreds of millions in campaign donations). He said all the right things, but his cabinet appointments are shaping up to be "meet the new boss, same as the old boss."

We'll never get actual change unless we make change, and the Democrats are the status quo. We could have had change in Vermont, too, if the Democrats had realized they didn't have a candidate who could compete, and who, in fact, made the Democrats the spoiler in Vermont in 2008.

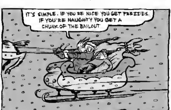
Craig Chevrier
HINESBURG

ALL IN THE FAMILY

The sarcasm was dripping in Shay Totten's take on Ed Adrian's decision to back out of Burlington's mayoral race ["Fair Game," November 19] in part because he wants to put his young family first. "The old spending-more-time-with-the-family bit. Always loved that one," he wrote, and I was stunned. If Adrian were the mother of a kindergartener and a preschooler instead of the father, in addition to being a practicing lawyer and an active member of the city council, would it have occurred to Totten to make fun of the decision?

One of the many things I loved about the Obama campaign was their honesty about how tough it was to parent and run a national campaign — their honesty about the sacrifices made and priorities maintained. One of the many things I hated about the Palin nomination was the mythology constructed around her that somehow she could be a hockey mom, govern a state, and run for vice president. "I didn't even blink," she said in an interview. Didn't even blink? With a special-needs infant, a pregnant teenager, a son on his way to Iraq and two in the middle easily forgotten? I'm not judging whether or not she should have accepted the nomination, but blinking is critical. Blinking suggests wisdom and caring along with an ability to think realistically about the bigger picture, about the impact of your decisions on those who depend on you. Hopefully Ed Adrian blinked and realized what it has taken me several years to realize: You can do it all, just not all at once. I am impressed with his ability to assess his family's and the community's needs and to remove his ego from the mayoral equation. There is nothing more important than time with his family and building bridges where they are structurally unsound.

Megan Munson Warnken
BURLINGTON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COMPILED BY CATHY RESMER

» MOST POPULAR STORIES IN 2008

Here's a list of the 20 most popular stories on our website this past year as of Tuesday December 16

1 "Is Vermont Disappearing? Yes, and a New Study Says There's Only One Solution" by Brian Wallstin (3/5/08)
2 "Clicks to Licks Anyone Can Learn to Play Guitar (Hero)" by Dan Bolles (1/23/08)
3 "Couple Sells Trailer After Volunteers Replace Roof" by Mike Ives (2/20/08)
4. "Missing Nick Why Natalie Garza Won't Give Up the Search for Her Son" by Brian Wallstin (4/9/08)
5 "Critics of Burton Snowboards Request Meeting With the Company" by Brian Wallstin (10/8/08)
6 "Vermont Transit Leaves the Driving and Its Name to Greyhound" by Ken Picard (3/26/08)
7 "Columnist to Speak About Journalism and His Post-Katrina Transformation" by Ken Picard (10/15/08)
8 "Taste Test Pizza Organic Pizza" by Suzanne Podhaizer (10/1/08)
9 "Where There's Smokejacks There's Fire The Real Story Behind the Closing of a Popular Burlington Restaurant" by Suzanne Podhaizer (10/8/08)
10 "Katrina Cottage Designer Talks Small in Burlington" by Matt Scanlon (2/13/08)

11 "Naked Ambition The Town of Shoreham Takes It (Almost) All Off for a Cause" by Pamela Polston (12/3/08)
12 "Burlington Couple and Temple Sinai Feud Over Daughter's Grave" by Brian Wallstin (7/9/08)
13 "Taste Test Sadie Katz Delicatessen" by Suzanne Podhaizer (3/5/08)
14 "Hard Lessons Headmaster Dana Blackhurst Is Trying to Save Pine Ridge School, But Will He Destroy It First?" by Ken Picard (7/10/08)
15 "Taste Test Big Chile Republic" by Suzanne Podhaizer (2/6/08)
16 "Fair Game There's Something Rotten in Vermont" by Shay Totten (7/16/08)
17 "Fair Game Burlington's Intervale Up Shit Creek" by Shay Totten (7/9/08)
18 "Times Are Tough — Temporarily? — on Church Street's Top Block" by Paula Routly (6/18/08)
19 "Inside Track Freyne's Last Track" by Peter Freyne (3/19/08)
20 "Kochalka Hears a Boo Burlington's 'Superstar' Makes More Comics for Kiddies" by Amy Lilly (5/21/08)

If you look at the "Most Popular" list on our website you'll notice that there's a story missing from the list in this column "Fame Seeking Vermonter Gets His Shot in a New Book" is actually the most popular story this year, but I'm not including it here Why? Because our web analytics service indicates that the story's popularity is the result of one person or a small group of people viewing the page multiple times

Note to whoever is trying to game our system Seeking fame by hitting refresh on your browser over and over again is really lame.

» MOST POPULAR VIDEOS THIS YEAR

1. "Stuck in Vermont 75 Junior Iron Chef" (4/12/08) — Eva Sollberger films Vermont high school students as they compete in a cooking competition using local food and seasonal produce (225 000 views on YouTube)
2 "Stuck in Vermont 65 NVAC Cheerleading Championships" (2/9/08) — Eva Sollberger follows the Fairfax Middle School Cheerleading squad to the statewide championships.
3 "Stuck in Vermont 105 Tiny Houses" (11/19/08) — Eva Sollberger profiles tiny house evangelist Peter King
4 "Nick Garza Is Missing Who Is Nick?" (3/12/08) — Eva Sollberger interviews family and friends of missing Middlebury College student Nicholas Garza whose body was found in May
5 "Stuck in Vermont 61 Fancy Felines" (1/10/08) — Eva Sollberger captures a cat show on camera.
6 "Stuck in Vermont 102 The Quidditch World Cup" (10/29/08) — Eva Sollberger documents this Harry Potter inspired competition at Middlebury College
7 "Loutube News. The Chelsea Clinton Excursion" (3/5/08) — Louis Armistead attends a Hillary Clinton for president rally at the UVM Davis Center to see the former first daughter.
8 "Dragball Slideshow 2008" (2/14/08) — This photo slideshow features images from the annual cross dressing fundraiser at Higher Ground.
9 "Stuck in Vermont 82 Green Mountain Derby Dames" (6/4/08) — Eva Sollberger explains the crash em, smash em retro world of roller derby
10 "Stuck in Vermont 101. James Kochalka" (10/22/08) — Eva Sollberger profiles the Burlington cartoonist and musician

» SEARCH TERMS THAT READERS USED TO FIND OUR WEBSITE IN 2008

How do people find *Seven Days* on the web? Lots of readers use Google or other search engines to find us. They type in keywords and the search engine spits out one link. We reviewed the top 500 keywords that led people to our site in 2008 Here are a few of the stranger results:

"loutube," "sandal maker + woodstock vermont " "lole sex," "switchback brewery " "shelburne meat market" "katrina cottage " "beautiful nose " "very cool blogs " "duoseal toilet " "mistress maeve talk dirty " "cruel sex," "extreme boot camp and vt," "free baby sign language," "roman empire myspace burlington " "political pie throwing " "baker babes " "porno " "george carlin lance armstrong "

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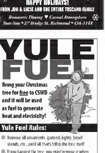
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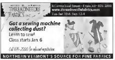
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2008 YEAR-END WRAP-UP

Whatever Happened To . . . ?

Catching up on the stories you read about in *Seven Days*

BY MIKE IVES, KEN PICARD & SHAY TOTTEN

Two thousand-eight will go down in the history books as a year marked by devastating storms, audacious terrorist attacks, shameful abuses of power and the worst financial meltdown since the Great Depression. Soon after Americans cashed their $600 "economic stimulus" checks, Wall Street bankers buried their snouts in a $700 billion bailout trough. There's little evidence to suggest that the economy has been "stimulated."

But 2008 will be remembered, first and foremost, as the year Americans overcame their long and painful history of institutionalized racism and elected the first African American to the nation's highest office. On November 4, Vermonters watched proudly as their state was the first to throw its electoral votes behind Barack Obama — a stinging rebuke of George W. Bush, who in eight years never once visited the Green Mountain State. If he had, Vermonters likely would have greeted him with dozens of local resolutions and public referenda calling for his impeachment.

While national and global news often eclipsed local events in 2008, many smaller but important stories showed up in *Seven Days*. In Burlington, voters opted to preserve the Moran Plant, a hulking relic of the fossil fuel age, and convert the former coal-fired plant on Lake Champlain into an eco-friendly recreational mecca.

Later in the year, Burlingtonians told **Burlington Telecom** they didn't want their municipally owned cable provider deciding what they can watch. By more than a 4-1 margin, Burlingtonians urged city council to keep Al Jazeera English on the air — though more than a few suggested that they wouldn't mind if Fox News disappeared from the dial.

At the state level, Gov. **Jim Douglas** announced his plans to slash hundreds of union jobs from the state payroll after giving members of his own team robust raises. And as his **Agency of Natural Resources** was moving at lightning speed to close down **Intervale Composting**, an invaluable community resource that keeps tons of organic waste out of local landfills, the Agency dragged its feet, or ignored, far more pressing environmental concerns. The state looked the other way for an unlicensed junkyard in Milton, a problematic chemical disinfectant in the **Champlain Water District**, an aging, trouble-plagued nuke plant, and a stealth effort to privatize Vermont's groundwater.

Ever find yourself asking, *What ever happened with that?* Well, so do we. That's why we've gone back to update some of the stories *Seven Days* covered in 2008. Like every newspaper, ours is limited by space and resources, but we strive to find stories that other media outlets overlook. To that end, we need and appreciate your help. We're eternally grateful to readers who provide us with story ideas, letters to the editor, blog posts, emails and phone calls. Whether you've been critical or complimentary of our work, we couldn't do our jobs without you.

WATER WORKS

Groundwater doesn't always rise to the level of "big story," but Vermont's underground aquifers made headlines in June when Gov. James Douglas signed Act 199 into law. The Act, championed by the **Vermont Natural Resources Council** and opposed by bottled water industry lobbyists, makes groundwater a protected "public trust resource" and imposes new restrictions on commercial-scale water extraction.

© PHOTO: JORDAN SILVERMAN

As for Rhoades' mountain of used tires, two tractor-trailer loads were finally removed under court order. Still it barely made a dent.

When *Seven Days* first reported on groundwater in February, a few Randolph residents were fighting a local **ClearSource** water-bottling plant. But on May 8, ***The Herald of Randolph*** reported that the plant closed unexpectedly, laying off more than 55 employees. The plant's equipment was auctioned off on September 18 to bottled water industry buyers, according to Stan Davis, a managing partner at the Pennsylvania auction firm Harry Davis & Company.

Randolph Town Manager **Gary Champy**, who started his job in October, isn't sure what to make of the now-vacant bottling plant. "I don't know what's going to happen," he says. "I was given an 800 number and I called it, but it was nothing more than a Bank of America investment person who had no clue what I was talking about."

TAXI TROUBLES

In a June 25 cover story, *Seven Days* investigated Burlington's largely unregulated taxi business. Queen City cabbies, administrators and public officials all told us that taxi fares and enforcement protocols needed an overhaul. "The system as a whole is kind of broke," said **Paul Kobar**, owner of the city's largest taxi operator, **Benways Transportation**. "If you're going to make a set of rules, enforce 'em!"

On September 2, cabbies met city officials at City Hall. After hearing public testimony, City Councilor **Clarence Davis** (P-Ward 3), who chairs the council's license committee, said he thought the city should police illegal surcharges and ensure that drivers post informational materials in their cockpits. "I think the time is right for some changes to be made to the ordinances," said Davis.

Recently, we emailed Davis to ask what, if anything, has been accomplished since September. Davis said the process is on "hiatus" due to scheduling conflicts, and that he plans to present the city council with recommendations by April.

"If it's going to be April, we're all going to be waiting with bated breath," said **Matt Kelsh**, a longtime local cabbie who attended the September meeting at City Hall. In the meantime, he added, a slumping economy might eliminate a few operators by natural selection.

MORE CEDO DOLLARS IN ACTION

Burlington's Community and Economic Development Office is spending a new $274,000 community service grant. According to **Beth Truzansky** of CEDO's **Center for Community & Neighborhoods**, the grant will pay 25 Americorps employees to work in 13 local schools and agencies through next fall.

That's good news for CEDO, which lost 21 of 41 positions from a related Americorps*VISTA program in August. While the two programs have different goals, Truzansky explains, "The point is we are building capacity within the city to serve low-income people."

The new program, she adds, is less "homogenous." Whereas VISTA organizers are usually white and college educated, nine of the 25 new Americorps hires are people of color, and 11 have families of their own.

Got a news tip?
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WASTE KNOT

For years, a group of Milton residents has been pressuring state and local officials to take decisive action against **ABC Metals/Rhoades Salvage**, an unlicensed junkyard that's been operating in town since the 1950s. As *Seven Days* reported in August, the junkyard has irked officials for more than a decade due to concerns ranging from a dangerously large scrap tire pile to possible soil and groundwater contamination. Despite all the concern, the scrapyard has been allowed to remain open.

Last week, Gary Lipson, a site manager with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region 1 headquarters in Boston, reported that he visited the junkyard in October and tested the soil there, in neighboring Hobbs Pond and at five adjacent properties. He was looking for a range of contaminants, including heavy metals, PCBs, volatiles and semi-volatiles.

Lipson, who is still reviewing the results, wasn't comfortable interpreting the data yet for public consumption due to, as he put it, "a couple of funky samples" in the batch.

"As a whole, I don't think it's as bad as we thought," he said. "Nothing jumped up where I'd call the residents screaming and say 'My God! Get out of the house!'"

As for Rhoades' mountain of used tires, which number in the hundreds of thousands, two tractor-trailer loads were finally removed this fall under court order. Still, it barely made a dent.

Asked if there's anything the EPA could do to finish the job, Lipson said he'd like to see the tires removed, but admitted it's beyond his authority. As he put it, "It's a solid waste issue and my program can't do anything about it ... unless it were on fire, that is."

ESSEX EXODUS

One of Vermont's biggest congregations, the **Essex Alliance Church**, may soon have a new home. *Seven Days* first reported on the outsized evangelical Protestant flock in November 2007, when Essex Alliance was seeking approval to build a multipurpose 110,000-square-foot facility on 54 acres in Williston. The church's purchase of the building site was contingent on city approval, which it secured in 2007.

As we reported in a March story, "Can I Get a Witness?" the church's 45,000-square-foot Essex Junction headquarters is jam-packed most Sundays. Counting attendees who watch a simulcast at a nearby movie theater, Pastor **Scott Slocum**'s sermons reach about 1800 people — it's the closest thing in Vermont to a "megachurch."

In a December 15 phone message for *Seven Days*, Slocum said his church purchased property in Williston last month but doesn't have any specific development timeline in mind.

Matt Boulanger, a senior planner at the **Williston Planning and Zoning Department**, said the church ought have to reapply for **Development Review Board** approval if its new plan is substantially different from the one it submitted to Williston officials in 2007.

"Either way," said Boulanger, "there's significant public process ahead of them in terms of going through these site-design review."

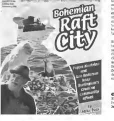
NEUTRINO FLOATS AGAIN

In early summer, Burlington hipsters spotted an elderly gentleman lounging outside the **Radio Bean Coffeehouse**. It was **Poppa Neutrino**, an internationally acclaimed voyager who once sailed the Atlantic on a raft made from garbage.

A few weeks later, Neutrino and Radio Bean founder **Lee Anderson** established the **nWL PaRTY**, a new civic group grounded in the teachings of Middle Eastern mystic G.I. Gurdjieff. Neutrino also began consulting on plans for a 125-by-24-foot garbage raft, which nWLites hope to sail on Lake Champlain next year.

Neutrino, 75, is now living in New Orleans and says he will eventually come back to the Queen City, but it may take awhile. Next month, Neutrino, Anderson and other Burlington bohemians will retrieve a 50-by-22-foot raft in Panama City. Some crewmembers will fly home once the garbage raft is seaworthy, but Neutrino plans to circumnavigate the globe on his raft voyage back to Vermont. If he fails to raise enough money, he hopes to return in time for the nWL PaRTY's maiden voyage on Champlain. Meanwhile, Neutrino is writing his autobiography — *The Seventy-Five-Year-Old Man on Fire* — and sending $20 monthly donations to the **Crash Collective** "unfoshop," a community space that opened recently on Bank Street.

"This is the time to be alive," Neutrino said the other day from New Orleans. "We've been through struggles, civil wars, revolutions. Now, with the election of a black president, we're in striking distance of putting out a whole new dimension."


FILE PHOTO MATTHEW THORSEN
SEVEN DAYS
Bohemian Raft City
Poppa Neutrino and Lee Anderson keep Burlington's creative community afloat
by Mike Ives

PIT WARS

Back in June, *Seven Days* reported on a conflict between concerned Bristol residents and **Jim Lathrop**, a local businessman who wants to open a 35-acre gravel pit about a mile from the center of town.

Gravel pits are nothing new in the Green Mountains, but according to the nonprofit **Smart Growth Vermont**, Bristol's case illustrates the ongoing tensions between industrial development and land-use planning in many small Vermont towns.

In September, Bristol's zoning board of adjustment rejected Lathrop's most recent pit proposal. Anti-pit advocates such as **John Moyers**, an outspoken Bristol landlord and son of TV journalist Bill Moyers, claimed the decision as a victory. "I think Mr. Lathrop should be pretty angry at his attorney," he told *Seven Days*.

But Lathrop's attorney, **Mark Hall**, sees things differently. After September's ZBA decision, Hall said the decision was "not even close to being fatal," and that his client may file an appeal in **Vermont Environmental Court**. On December 9, Hall emailed *Seven Days* a two-sentence update: "The decision was appealed. We at the environmental court right now."

Who needs verbs?

GIVING PAWS

When their young charges informed Girl Scout troop leaders **Jennifer Mignano** and **Chandelle**

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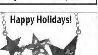
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Trahan they wanted to "do something with dogs" as part of their community service project, the women never imagined the girls would lead them into the minefields of Bosnia and Lebanon.

But as *Seven Days* reported in March, the 11- and 12-year-olds of **Williston Troop 820** and **Essex Junction Troop 125** were serious about raising money to buy and train a landmine-detection dog for the Marshall Legacy Institute. The primary mission of the Virginia-based nonprofit is to educate the public about landmines, which kill or maim about 20,000 people annually.

Mine-sniffing dogs aren't cheap — it costs about $20,000 to purchase, train and deploy one with an overseas handler. But the girls of troops 820 and 125 raised that and more. With $20,000, they purchased "Champlain," a 2-year-old German shepherd now training in Lebanon. With an additional $4000, the girls bought a prosthetic limb for 17-year-old Anita Vidovic of Vitez, Bosnia and Herzegovina, who lost her leg to a landmine.

In June, Mignano and her daughter, **Maria**, 13, traveled to Bosnia, where they visited a landmine-clearing operation, met the handlers and watched the canines in action. "It was quite a moment when we walked around the corner and saw the dogs working for the first time," Mignano recalls. "We gained so much respect for these animals."

Mignano and her daughter also met Vidovic in person and ate dinner with her and her parents. "From one parent to another, it was a pretty intense moment," Mignano recalls.

Then, not long ago, fellow scout leader Trahan returned from a trip to Lebanon. Due to the risks of traveling in that region, Trahan couldn't bring along her daughter, **Katie**. But she did get to watch Champlain train, and saw firsthand the pride on his handler's face.

Thus far, Vermont has purchased four mine-detection dogs — more than any other state. Mignano and Trahan, whom the Marshall Legacy Institute recognized this spring as "leaders of the year," are now working to get other schools and youth groups involved in landmine education.

CHAMPLAIN WITH HANDLER PRIVATE FARID L. HANOUN AND ANITA VIDOVIC

PHOTO COURTESY OF DANIELLE TRAHAN

Thus far, Vermont has purchased four mine-detection dogs — more than any other state.

"AMERICA'S ARMY" STORMS WINOOSKI

Speaking of war zones, **Champlain College's Emergent Media Center** just got a major publicity bump from the U.S. military. The EMC, a cutting-edge computer program that bridges the gap between a college education and careers in the computer sector, just announced the completion of two new "missions" for the Pentagon-sponsored "America's Army," one of most successful online computer games in history. In October, *Seven Days* wrote about the EMC's work on video games for kids with cystic fibrosis.

"America's Army" was launched in 2002 as a "communications method" (read: recruitment tool) to reach young people who want to learn more about Army life, according to "America's Army" PR director Lon Mezoff. It boasts more than 9.4 million registered users in 60 countries.

"The goal is to reach people who don't have a personal touch with the Army," Mezoff explains. "They may not have a relative or friend in the Army. So this is kind of an insider's look at what it's like to be a soldier."

Over the summer, about a dozen Champlain College students began working with AA's development team in Emeryville, California, on two new missions: "District," a nighttime urban scenario set in a "vaguely eastern European city," and "Canyon," a scenario set in a Middle Eastern mountain village where the local warlord has recently stolen a cache of heavy weapons. EMC got no financial compensation for its Army work, although it did receive considerable technical and data assistance.

Sarah Jerger, EMC's operations manager, explains that although the military imposed certain preconditions on the student-developed missions — Special Forces personnel actually review the missions for accuracy and realism — students had a lot of freedom to make the game both entertaining and educational.

"What makes this game different than any other kind of Army or shooter game is that there are consequences for your actions," Jerger explains. "You can't just go through it and shoot up innocent villagers. You'll get sent to the brig."

Needless to say, not everyone in the educational world is thrilled by such collaborations. Roger Stahl, a communications professor at the University of Georgia, has coined a term for "America's Army" and similar video games: "militainment" — or the packaging of war for pleasurable consumption via America's entertainment industries, including film, television, sports, toys and video games.

A spokesperson for "America's Army" couldn't offer statistics on the game's effectiveness as a recruitment tool. But since it costs the military on average $15,000 to woo each new recruit, Stahl claims the game need only draw in 300 new enlistees each year to pay for itself. In 2005, he noted, four in ten Army enlistees reported that they had played the game. Talk about bang for your buck.

EATING ANOTHER KIND OF LEAD

In September *Seven Days* first reported that construction done over the summer at the **University of Vermont's Williams Hall** had resulted in elevated levels of lead dust in the 112-year-old building while faculty, staff and students were present. That disclosure prompted a state investigation and the university's health service to offer free blood lead screenings to anyone who may have been exposed.

Last week, **Robert McLeod**, manager of the **Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Administration** (VOSHA) reported that two citations were issued — one to UVM and the other to its contractor **Bread Loaf Construction**, for improper lead dust management. A second contractor, **J.A. Morrissey Construction**, which also worked on Williams Hall last summer, was exonerated of any wrongdoing.

Wipe samples taken by a VOSHA investigator a few months ago turned up surface lead contamination that exceeded state and federal standards, McLeod reports. According to the VOSHA report, Bread Loaf Construction failed to adequately implement the company's lead compliance program and was hit with a $2500 fine. UVM was cited for not conducting frequent and regular inspections and was fined $5250.

Bad timing for the cash-strapped university. The good news? Thus far, no students, faculty or staff have turned up with elevated blood lead levels.

SPEAKING OF LEAD

A city administrator reports that the **Burlington Lead Program** is still struggling to spend the $2.8 million grant it received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The HUD money is supposed to fund 160 lead abatement projects throughout Burlington, a city with the seventh-oldest housing stock in the nation. But in August, **Jeff Tanguay** of Burlington's Community and Economic Development Office told *Seven Days* that despite a direct mailing campaign to 600 landlords, contractors had completed only seven abatement jobs. As of mid-December, that number had climbed to 16 — still about 10 shy of CEDO's projected goal.

Still, Tanguay says he's hopeful that applications will pick up in 2008. The **Vermont Attorney General** is sending letters to Burlington landlords, he notes, and Burlington city councilors are reviewing a proposed ordinance that would authorize city inspectors to enforce a 2008 federal law aimed at minimizing harmful lead dust.

The lead program has also "sweetened the pot" for prospective landlords, Tanguay adds. Whereas participating single-family home landlords previously got a 50 percent lead-abatement refund after 10 years, they now get a full refund after five years.

"You're not going to find any better deal than that," he asserts. "It's basically free money that we're trying to give away."

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LETTERS

Board Yet?

It's been two and a half months since Burton unveiled its new "Primo" and "Love" snowboard lines, but the letters of outrage keep on coming. With this final end-of-the-year batch, we acknowledge the fourth quarter's biggest local story — outside the election and the economy, that is — and add our own cents. Enough already.

BURTON COVERAGE IN *SEVEN DAYS*:
"Antiviolence Advocates Ponder Next Move in Burton Protest," December 3
"Flipping the Board," November 26
"Burton Critics to Rally at Company's Headquarters," October 22
"Critics of Burton Snowboards Request Meeting with Company," October 8

BURTON COVERAGE IN "BLURT," THE *SEVEN DAYS* STAFF BLOG:
"Burton Founders Defend Their Boards," November 26
"Resorts Ban Employee from Riding Controversial Boards," October 28
"Please Talk to Us," October 23
"Burton CEO Defends Controversial Boards," October 23
"Board Critics to March on Burton," October 21
"Burton Snowboard Controversy: Update and Op-Ed," October 10
"Burton's Offensive New Boards," September 30

SHREDDER'S LAMENT

Has anyone seen the recently released movie *Saw 5*? Did anyone notice that at the end the man has to saw his hand in half? I heard no protest against such gruesome acts, and yet when a snowboard shows this, it gets ripped apart. It's a cartoon graphic, and so many worse things have been depicted in the media and on the Internet. I wonder why anyone even cares.

My second point: Why would organizations ever cut funding for Burton's CHILL program?! By cutting funding, they are hurting the children, not the company.

My third point refers to a comment posted at *Seven Days* about young, boot-clad men riding on top of naked women, and how this promotes the degradation of women. If any of these protesters actually knew anything about riding, or had a passion for riding, they would understand the love and pride that is vested in every rider's board. It is in no way a dishonor to be stomped on a snowboard. These dinnd sticks are practically holy in the eyes of a true rider. I think that these people should try and understand the sport before attacking it.

I am only 16, and I see that these protests are useless. This is a state where the live-and-let live attitude was once a strong opinion. This state allows naked people to walk around in front of their kids but refuses to allow a snowboard to depict a half naked woman! Come on people. Just let it go and let it die. It's all this 16-year-old shredder can ask for.

Cody Jackson
ALBURGH

BURTON IS RIGHT

I'm a 28-year-old *female* who's sick and tired of listening to these overactive feminists and antiviolence groups speak for her. I can speak for myself, but you might not like it.

Burton is right. There's a new generation of females out there who will either find the boards "tongue in cheek" and humorous, or won't waste their time being bothered by the issue. We've got better things to do, bigger fish to fry. It seems sometimes people aren't happy unless they have something to complain about, and this time around, Burton has unfairly caught the brunt of Vermont's boredom.

Lighten up, everyone. Find that sense of humor you had when you were *our* age and had the posters under your bed. What's the difference between a 10-year old reading a *Maxim* magazine or playing violent video games you probably already bought them for Christmas and seeing one of the boards? There isn't one. But you don't see people out there protesting or boycotting *Maxim* or "Call of Duty," do you?

I'd just like to say, rock on, Burton! I'm a woman and I happen to enjoy toilet humor and half naked women.

Alison Hardy
BURLINGTON

IMAGE UNCONSCIOUS

Burton has done many remarkable things for our communities, our state and for women. That fact should not be ignored in all this controversy.

However, in their recent interview, Donna and Jake seem to have missed the point of the outrage at their recent "Love" board. As a 24-year-old woman, I can safely assume I fit into Donna Carpenter's group of "younger women." And as a 24-year-old woman, I am regularly offended by the objectification of women, and do not find it "kitschy" or "tasteful."

This includes *Maxim* magazine, as Jake mentioned, but also includes the "Love" snowboard. Popular singers, movies and advertisements constantly display women as objects whose only real importance or worth lies in their sex appeal. Burton's snowboard is another disappointing example of this trend.

One in six women will be sexually assaulted in her lifetime, and college-age women are four times more likely than any other age group to be sexually assaulted. If this is Burton's audience, perhaps they would be interested in addressing the reality of women's lives rather than creating more boards that continue to display women as objects ready for men to take pleasure in.

Just because the "Love" snowboard isn't the "worst image" doesn't mean it isn't perpetuating and supporting a dangerous and harmful trend in our society.

Eliza Behrning
MONTPELIER

CARPENTERS NAILED

What is most obvious about the Carpenters' response is that they don't get the connection between demeaning images of women and violence against women. They seem to be intelligent enough, but they're not willing to consider this valid objection.

What many object to is Burton's use of pornography, because with it they have fallen far from their cutting edge style and have used the lowest common denominator to appeal to their audience: sex.

Their new board's list of "things we should be fighting now" is especially ironic because it includes forms of violence against women, when they have in fact added to the problem by using images of nude women on their boards.

They assume people won't be shocked by these images because they and our society have become insensitive to the practice of using images of women to sell products. The incessant repetition of those images conditions us to see them as "kitschy" when we should be insulted by them because they are degrading.

With freedom of speech comes responsibility, and the Carpenters have shirked theirs. The boarders Jake Carpenter loves to — young men — are interested in nude women. When he chose to furnish them with those images, Carpenter neglected his responsibility as an adult to say, "No, that would be disrespectful and an insult to women."

Burton does a disservice to men as well as women because they've made the practice of showing women as sexual objects acceptable. Basically they've said, "Go ahead and demean women: we did."

I would ask the Carpenters to educate themselves by checking out *Killing Us Softly*, Jean Kilbourne's series about how advertising affects society's perception of women at mediaed.org. Maybe then they will get it.

Heidi Nepveu
BURLINGTON

WRONG ABOUT RIGHT WING

More than anything else, I was struck by Jake Carpenter stating that in Vermont, "We'd like to think we're not living in an ultra right-wing state." Holy cow! A state that went for Obama by 68 percent? That overwhelmingly elected Bernie Sanders? According to a 2008 town meeting Doyle poll, Vermont, the first state to enact civil unions, now favors same-sex marriage 54 to 37 percent. The same poll found 65 percent of Vermonters support decriminalization of marijuana. Sure, the state still has its conservative, pro-gun Republicans, but are those who actively oppose Burton's controversial boards mostly of that ilk? I think Jake mistbated his words.

Wayne Michaud
BRISTOL

CONSIDER THE AUDIENCE

The controversy over Burton Snowboards' limited-edition "Love" collection of boards adorned with vintage *Playboy* magazine models has gone far enough.

For weeks now, critics of the boards have been raising the issue of how the boards will have an influence on teenage youth. But have they ever stopped to consider who actually *buying* these boards? At prices of over $400 apiece (and probably much higher on eBay), I seriously doubt that very many teens can afford to buy them, especially with our economy sliding into a deep recession.

Has it ever occurred to these critics that it might be mostly college-aged and older adult men buying these boards to hang on their bedroom or college dorm-room walls? Let's get real here. Does anyone really expect to see these boards actually ridden down the slopes, with their images of nude *Playboy* models bearing the inevitable scars of wear and tear?

I seriously doubt it.

I wonder just how many of the "Love" boards' critics have collections of *Playboy* magazines stashed away in their own bedroom closets? Those who do are hypocrites who really need to shut up.

Perhaps Burton, in the spirit of fair play and equal time, should consider a limited-edition collection of "Love" boards with vintage *Playgirl* magazine male models (although *Playgirl* ceased publication in August amid persistent rumors that its readership had become predominantly gay men).

Skeeter Sanders
HUNTINGTON

PHOTO: MATTHEW THO

WE THE PEOPLE

The good people at Burton Snowboard put "We the People" on their newest board ["Flipping the Board," November 26]. If anyone at Burton had ever bothered to read past the first three words of the U.S. Constitution, they would know that citizens have a right to protest, write letters and boycott companies.

Jake Carpenter thinks his "Primo" boards are humorous. So, what is funny about kids slicing their bodies with razor blades? He feels that I should be concerned about "poverty, famine, Wall Street greed, political partisanship, homophobia, bigotry, cancer, militarism and global warming." Mr. Carpenter, for your information, I am deeply concerned about all of these things, so excuse me if I am also concerned about kids slicing themselves to ribbons.

Mr. Carpenter thinks this makes me an "ultra-conservative." This is the first time in my entire life that I've ever been called one. In the *Seven Days* piece, the Carpenters tell us how to raise our children and what we should teach them. Well, I think they are outrageously arrogant. Apparently, Wall Street isn't the only place with a greed problem.

Lance Cary
SOUTH BURLINGTON

FREEDOM TO PROTEST

I was glad to see the Burton Carpenters finally engage in the public debate about their recent snowboard design choices. Similar news about American Apparel and Red Square ads have been raised in this very paper. Freedom of speech also grants the freedom to protest against someone else's free-speech choices. If the couple really only cared about the opinions of their snowboarding target audience, the public outcry should leave them cold. If, however, they wish to maintain a respected position in Vermont's public eye as women's rights advocates and philanthropists, they have to consider what is acceptable to feminists, social service providers, etc. I, for one, will not be bullied into believing my views and values are irrelevant to a younger generation.

A pin-up reserves my disdain, whether it is on a snowboard, my auto mechanic's shop wall or in my uncle's office. It is an old, tired image from a time when sexual harassment was even more common than it is today.

As a mother and teacher, it is my obligation to stand up and speak out. Our teens and young adult children look to us for guidance, regardless of their rebellious behavior. An elder in a protest march may not be sexy or fashionable, but she/he is still a powerful role model!

Annette Urbschat
BURLINGTON

BURTON'S TOO BIG

In all the controversy about Burton Snowboard's graphics, there is a deeper subtext that is being missed. Frankly, I thought it more offensive when Burton offered cash rewards for "poaching" at Mad River Glen, where the co-op members have decided they do not want the boarding culture. Burton's owners, the Carpenters, thought it would be cute to offer cash incentives to violate community values. Now they are marketing board graphics to increase their cachet, which similarly violate community values.

Burton is one of Vermont's largest businesses, with a very narrow market "demographic" and a corporate goal of dominating that market globally. It is no wonder that community concerns and values would be ignored in favor of the "edge" values of their youthful customers.

No matter how much business owners try to make themselves an integral part of their communities, the requisites of a large business venture must, at some point, override local concerns. Bottom line: Big is not good for Vermont. Small, local, community-based businesses can both serve and represent Vermont sound values. Global business enterprises cannot.

Robert Riversong
WARREN

CARPENTERS' SONS

I can't help but wonder what choices Donna and Jake Carpenter would make for Burton if they had three daughters instead of three sons.

Wendy Farrell
BOLTON VALLEY

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OPEN SEASON ON VT POLITICS

Rough Sledding Ahead

This year's legislative session will not be for the faint of heart or weak of stomach.

Within a week of landing in Montpelier, top economists will hand legislators more gloomy news: the likely need to cut an additional $35 to $50 million from this year's budget. The FY 2010 budget may require surgery to the tune of $150 million.

In a recent meeting with the *Burlington Free Press* editorial board, Administration Secretary **Neale Lunderville** promised: "We will gore everyone's ox, including the governor's ox and the legislature's ox." Freeps Executive Editor **Mike Townsend** noted the quote on his "Twitterings" blog.

Lunderville also told the Freeps he's been having trouble sleeping — and no wonder, with those bloody bovine images kicking around in his head.

More likely, he's being haunted by spreadsheets bleeding red ink and pink slips. Since August, when he took over the $120,000 job from **Mike Smith**, Lunderville has had to oversee more than $100 million in savings from the current fiscal plan. He's also been in charge of cutting 250 vacant positions from the budget — permanently. That plan is due out at month's end.

Budget deficits have a way of scaring the shit out of people. And nobody's more frightened than the people on the receiving end.

His scissor hand has been guided by the legislative Joint Fiscal Committee, comprised of key lawmakers from the money committees in the House and Senate. Still, budget deficits have a way of scaring the shit out of people. And nobody's more frightened than the people on the receiving end.

In December, Lunderville pushed to have another $37 million axed from the budget. After a tussle, Lunderville *et al.* eliminated $20 million from the budget, and agreed to let the incoming legislature deal with the remaining cuts so there could be a broader public discussion about them. Imagine that: public discussion on a public budget. What'll they think of next?

Advocates for the vulnerable successfully urged lawmakers to wait until January before making any further budget cuts. They fear more reductions in funding could drastically affect services to the poor, elderly and disabled.

Barbara Postman of Kids are Priority One led the letter-writing campaign. Roughly three dozen organizations representing tens of thousands of Vermonters signed on to the campaign letter, she said.

"No one is arguing for no cuts at all," she pointed out. "We all know it's a tough budget, but we do believe that there needs to be a broad discussion and we should have all options on the table."

One of those options is turning to Washington for help. In mid-December, Gov. **Jim Douglas** joined fellow govs in D.C. for a hat-holding ceremony before key members of Congress.

Douglas told the House Appropriations Committee that governors were "working hard to address this downturn and are currently looking at all options to reduce expenditures. These reductions, however, will undoubtedly impact state services," he continued, "including those services supporting Vermont's most vulnerable citizens."

How could the federal government best help the states? With a boost in transportation infrastructure and Medicaid funding, said Douglas, who is the vice chair of the National Governors Association.

Vermont's congressional delegation is pushing for legislation that would waive the state and local matches for all federally funded highway, transit and rail projects through September 30, 2009. State officials say such a move could mean an additional $15 million flowing into the state.

Douglas still maintains that Vermont needs to dig out of the recession without raising taxes. It can be done, he believes, through reductions in state spending programs and positions.

Senate President Pro Tem Peter Shumlin, a Windham County Democrat, is in league with the governor on this one. He's lobbying to cut state spending and believes the state should look to the feds to make up the difference in key areas such as transportation and health care.

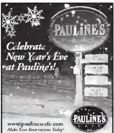
Though painful decisions are ahead, Shumlin said, "I have confidence that as Vermonters, we will use our ingenuity, pragmatism and thoughtfulness to overcome these challenges."

Shumlin's counterpart in the House — incoming House Speaker Shap Smith (D-Morrisville) — said lawmakers must look at both short- and long-term solutions to the budget conundrum.

"Clearly, the budget and the economy are going to be front and center as we return in January," said Smith. While the money committees focus on the budget, he said other key committees will be "rethinking how we deliver services and rethinking what services we deliver."

Smith is one of only a few lawmakers who say the state should not rule out raising taxes as a way to get out of the budget mess. As we noted in last week's

>> 18A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fair game

<< 17A

"Fair Game." Republican Gov. **Richard Snelling** came to the same conclusion during the recessions of 1983 and 1991. And history suggests he got us out of those.

But, hey, who's keeping track?

"Other Issues" — "The governor has three essential priorities for this year: the economy, community safety and the budget," said spokesman **Steve Wark**. "His strong belief is that these extraordinarily difficult times require the specific focus of elected leaders to keep Vermonters safe, both economically and from a public-safety perspective. Other issues, while important, need to be put in perspective."

What "other issues," exactly? Could he be referring to same-sex marriage?

Sen. **John Campbell** (D-Windsor) said he hopes to get a bill through his chamber by the Town Meeting Day break. He admits it will take some effort to convince colleagues that same-sex marriage merits consideration during dire times. He also acknowledges that he received numerous hostile phone calls after announcing he would introduce legislation that would allow gay couples to make it official.

Campbell said a special legislative commission has done most of the legal legwork. It's heard from the Vermont citizens, too, and created a body of evidence that lawmakers can review without having to hold lengthy and potentially emotional public hearings.

"I think what is extremely important for people to know," said Campbell, "is that this would not force religious organizations to perform the ceremonies."

A same-sex marriage proponent in the House, Rep. Mark Larson (D-Burlington), said the bill will come up — that's not in question.

"The question is how will we respond," said Larson. "I would hope it doesn't become similar to the impeachment debate, where not doing it took more time than doing it, and opponents and supporters all were pissed off with us."

Equally emotional, and politically toxic, is the issue of Vermont Yankee and whether lawmakers should give it a second life. Without a legislative decision to extend its operating license, the Entergy-owned nuke plant will have to shut down in 2012.

Word of advice: The longer you wait for a vote, the more likely another piece of Vermont Yankee will fall off.

It's not clear if Vermont Yankee will come up for a vote this session. Without a "yes" vote from lawmakers, state law prohibits the Public Service Board from offering what is known as a certificate of public good. The quasi-judicial PSB could be ready to rule by fall.

Rep. **Tony Klein** (D-Montpelier) is likely to continue as chairman of the House Natural Resources & Energy Committee. Though not a fan of Vermont Yankee or nuclear power, Klein said he will ensure his colleagues make an informed decision.

"I am not opposed to having a vote this session," said Klein. "What I am opposed to is having a vote by a legislative body without any information before them. My goal is to have an open and clear and full process — no shenanigans."

The two processes — the legislature's and the PSB's — are intertwined. Some of the information lawmakers need will be filed as testimony with the PSB as part of the relicensing procedure. A key consultant's review of the plant's reliability will be made public on December 22, and a special legislative oversight panel will issue its own evaluation sometime mid-session.

The PSB hopes that by July it will have all the necessary data on Yankee. Lawmakers are unlikely to remain in Montpelier past May.

As for Entergy, it switched lobbyists in October from long-term pro **Gerry Morris** to a bigger firm — MacLean, Meehan and Rice. **Christopher Rice**, who ran **Doug Racine**'s 1996 lite-gov campaign, will head up the effort to persuade lawmakers that keeping VY running for another 20 years is good for the state. No small task.

When we caught up with Rice in mid-December, he was still putting together a session game plan for his new client. Word of advice: The longer you wait for a vote, the more likely another piece of Vermont Yankee will fall off. Seriously. The plant's deteriorating condition is its own worst enemy.

Antinuke activists are trying to get a Yankee-closing resolution on ballots all across the state in time for Town Meeting Day. Leading that effort is **Dan DeWalt**, the Newfane selectman who spearheaded the town meeting impeachment movement.

On the theme of "re licensing" a tired idea, Team Douglas has another well-worn agenda item. As part of an "economic stimulus" package, it's trotting out some "permit reform" proposals the Leg has rejected for six years. Among the changes being considered is one that would make the Act 250 appeals process more formal, possibly curbing citizen input.

A special task force of three political appointees — **Peter Young**, chairman of the Natural Resources Board, **Kevin Dorn**, commerce secretary, and **Laura Pelosi**, environmental commissioner — will release its recs in January. To date the panel has largely taken its input from lawyers and developers.

Brian Shupe, sustainable communities director at the Vermont Natural Resources Council, said Douglas hasn't had a coherent economic development strategy during his tenure.

"He's done very little until the economy is on the verge of collapse, only to trot out his reliable scapegoat: gutting regulations that protect our environmental quality," said Shupe. "Act 250 has been proven to insulate Vermont from the booms and busts that affect the rest of the country. It helps Vermont weather economic stresses like the one we face now."

Shelter helps, too. Other advocates are worried about the merging of two departments — economic development and housing — at a time when people are losing their homes. Douglas said the move could save as much as $100,000.

"With the economy in the tank, people losing their homes and shelters overflowing, advocates have been very concerned that the Douglas administration wants to downsize economic development and housing," said **Erhard Mahnke** of the Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition.

Tapped to be the deputy commish in charge of housing is **Tayt Brooks**, the outgoing GOP executive director and former lobbyist for the Vermont Homebuilders Association. Brooks is a nice enough guy, but he's got no experience working in affordable housing. In fact, some homebuilders openly despise the nonprofit housing folks.

"To me, this is like the fox guarding the hen house," added Mahnke.

Between the hens, foxes and oxen, this year's legislature may sound, and smell, more like a farmyard.

To reach Shay Totten, email shay@sevendaysvt.com.

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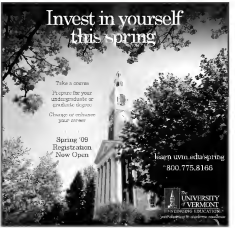
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news quirks

BY ROLAND SWEET

NEWS ITEMS FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE

ODD STRANGE CURIOUS AND WEIRD BUT TRUE

Curses, Foiled Again Robert E. Dendy, 59, dropped off a Christmas wreath at police headquarters in Tonawanda, N.Y., explaining it was a token of appreciation for the officers on duty. Believing that Dendy could not have afforded the wreath, suspicious officers called the supermarket next door to see if one had been stolen. According to the police report, store officials "stated that the wreaths were kept outside and that they did not recently sell any." The *Tonawanda News* reported that officers confronted Dendy, who admitted to stealing the wreath. He also had at least 26 other items thought to have been taken from another nearby store.

• When a 29-year-old man showed up at a police station in Jackson, Mich., for a background check required by the company where he was applying for a job, the computer system showed he was wanted on a domestic violence charge. Deputy Police Chief John Holda told the *Jackson Citizen Patriot* that, while searching the man, an officer found several rocks of cocaine.

Technology Follies Three Norwegian tourists cut short their vacation after they got lost returning from a Brazilian beach resort, and the satellite navigation system in their rental car directed them to turn off a main highway at the quickest route back to the airport to drop off their rental car. Instead, they found themselves deep in Rio de Janeiro's lawless Maré slum complex, where drug traffickers promptly opened fire, wounding driver Trygve Killingtveit, 24, who managed to drive to safety. "As far as I understand, the GPS system in their car showed the wrong information," his brother Magne Killingtveit told the Norwegian newspaper *Dagbladet*.

• Today's younger generation could prove unsuitable as jurors because of their reliance on the Internet for information, Britain's Lord Chief Justice said. "One potential problem is whether, learning as they do in this way, they will be accustomed, as we were, to listening for prolonged periods," 70-year-old Lord Phillips told an audience at the University of Hertfordshire.

When Guns Are Outlawed Emmanuelle Rodriguez, 19, admitted hitting his girlfriend in the face with a sandwich, telling police in Port St. Lucie, Fla., he used the sandwich because he "didn't want to hit her" with his fist.

• Donald Kercell, 49, became drunk, got angry, grabbed a knife and went outside to confront neighbors on Thanksgiving, according to police in Sacramento, Calif. Sgt. Norm Leong told KCRA News that Kercell wounded several people before a bystander picked up a 2-foot-long decorative candy cane and smacked Kercell with it. Police found Kercell sprawled on a lawn.

• In another Thanksgiving assault, Christopher Ford, 46, hit his girlfriend with a sweet potato pie, according to a Martin County sheriff's report, which explained that Ford didn't like the Thanksgiving dinner the woman prepared. The two argued, and Ford picked up the pie the woman had just removed from the oven and smashed it into her face.

• When a robber showed a knife and demanded money from a man in Edmonton, Alberta, the victim fled to a nearby gas station and grabbed a squeegee to defend himself. Police official Jeff Wuite told the *Edmonton Journal* the robber followed, grabbed two squeegees and chased the victim around the station, hitting him at least once. A witness called police, who arrested a 25-year-old suspect.

• Thomas Edward Lackie, 37, was arrested for using a Christmas tree as a weapon in Parrish, Fla. According to the Manatee County sheriff's report, Lackie threw the 3-foot tree at his father, then, when it missed, tried to use the steel base from the tree to strike him. Lackie's mother helped her husband subdue their son.

Nonrefundable Economy Fare Daisuke Enomoto filed a lawsuit seeking a refund of the $21 million he spent on a flight to outer space. The suit claims Virginia-based Space Adventures, which brokers deals with the Russian space agency to put "space tourists" in orbit, canceled his trip after he spent eight months training at a facility near Moscow because he refused the company's demand for more money. The Japanese millionaire had planned to dress up as his favorite cartoon character and become the first tourist to walk in space. In asking U.S. District Judge James Cacheris to dismiss the suit, Space Adventures explained that Enomoto was disqualified because of a chronic kidney-stone condition. Company lawyer John Villa pointed out the no-refund policy is aimed at preventing would-be space tourists from getting cold feet after undergoing the training and provoking a medical disqualification.

Second-Amendment Follies William Agee, 30, shot himself in the head at a family gathering in Chicago Heights, Ill. "He thought the safety was on, put the gun to his head, squeezed the trigger and that was that," police Lt. Michael Romano said. Neighbor Jeff Hancock told Fox News that Agee "always had a pistol on him."

• Raymond Rene Rodriguez, 18, tried to rob a home with a shotgun but had to be taken to the hospital after he accidentally shot himself in the foot, according to police in South Austin, Texas.

• The police chief of Middletown, Ohio, Greg Schwarber, 54, was preparing to clean his gun after giving his daughter a gun-safety lesson when he accidentally shot himself in the thigh. The police report noted Schwarber didn't think the .45-caliber pistol was loaded.

Missing the Point South Australian government has closed the Simpson Desert because it is too hot. The region's Department of Environment and Heritage made the decision after a risk assessment showed temperatures of 104 to 122 degrees were dangerous for people crossing the desert, particularly "overseas tourists who are not experienced and are ill prepared for the conditions." Anyone caught crossing the desert during the closing, which lasts until March 15, faces a fine of up to $1000 (US$658).

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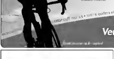
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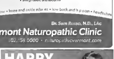
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hackie BY JERNIGAN PONTIAC

A CABBIE'S REAR VIEW

Put Melanie in the Trunk

I was driving two regulars, Ted and Cindy, to a Christmas party being thrown by one of Cindy's coworkers. Everyone invited to Melanie's party — I overheard as they spoke with each other in the back of the cab — either worked together at this large nursing home where Cindy was employed as a speech therapist, or was a partner of someone who did. This type of party can be slightly awkward; the guests all know each other, but are they really friends? Mix with alcohol and see what happens. The holidays are a hoot.

In December, the various permutations of holiday fêtes are my bread and butter. This year in particular, with the economy slumbing daily, I've been counting on these parties to keep me in the black. The downtown scene is hurting, not just for us cabbies but for the restaurants and retail shops as well. In a way, the taxis are the canaries in the coal mine — a bellwether for the local economy as a whole.

So I dropped Ted and Cindy at the party and, much later that evening, I was hailed by two couples in front of Metronome. When the man who took the shotgun seat gave me the address, I said, "Well, that's a coincidence. I drove another couple to that exact address earlier this evening. It was Ted and Cindy, and I think a party was being thrown by — let me think was it Melanie?"

Melanie didn't scream the question; rather, her voice was low and flat, which made it twice as scary.

One of the two women sitting with the other man in the back said, "Yeah, that's me. It was my party. The four of us decided to go out dancing when it broke up."

Before we had driven a block, Melanie said, "Hey, you don't take plastic, do you? Does anyone have cash on them?" When the wallet and purse searches turned up negative, the man in the back said to Melanie, "Let's stop at an ATM, honey, and I'll get some cash."

Melanie said, "Yeah, you do that, Adam. Get some cash." Something was going on between Melanie and Adam, that was evident.

I stopped in front of the Merchants Bank and Adam climbed out. He walked five feet, stopped, smacked his forehead and returned to the cab. "Guess what?" he informed the group. "I left my debit card at Metronome. Let's go back."

Melanie disagreed. "You dumb fuck," she said. "That is so like you. We're not going back to the bar. I'll get out some money."

Melanie did her thing at the ATM booth and, when she returned, I brought up Adam's card, suggesting it's not the kind of thing you want to leave hanging overnight. Everyone agreed. Everyone, that is, except Melanie. As I spun the cab around to go back to the club, I caught her glaring at me in the rear view mirror. A cold shiver ran down my spine. The instant Adam left the cab to retrieve his card Melanie launched into a diatribe, ostensibly speaking with the other woman in the back seat, but loud enough for folks strolling on the sidewalk to hear.

"What a stupid fuck I have for a husband," she declared. "And now we have the baby and this is what I have to deal with."

"Oh, come on, Melanie," the other woman tried to placate her. "Yeah, men are dumb, but we love them, right? You guys just made the cutest baby in the world. You love each other."

"OK, Jen — Sammy is, like, the cutest, but Adam is still a fucking retard! I can't take it! I swear to God!"

My seatmate and I caught each other's eye, and I whispered, "Could we, like, put Melanie in the trunk?" He grinned and gave a small nod.

"What the fuck did you just say?"

Melanie didn't scream the question; rather, her voice was low and flat, which made it twice as scary. Obviously I had fatally miscalculated the modulation on my whisper. I looked to my seatmate for support, but he was staring straight ahead with a blank expression.

"You want to put me in the fucking trunk? Is that what you said? Who the fuck do you think you are, cabbie?"

"Melanie," I began my apology. "I was just, like, kidding around." I, too, remained facing forward; I didn't have the guts to turn around. "I didn't mean anything."

"Is that right?" she said. "I see. You were just kidding around. You didn't mean anything. Sticking me in the trunk? That is fucking hilarious. I want to call your manager. Give me a card."

I passed back one of my business cards. If she were to call, I would assure her that the offending driver would be immediately terminated. It would not be the first time I fired myself to pacify an irate customer.

Adam, the lucky husband, returned and we commenced the long ride to Twin Oaks in South Burlington. Melanie continued to berate her partner, taking breaks only to rail at me. When we reached her place, she said, "If you think I'm going to pay you for this ride after you insulted me, you are fucking crazy." With that, she calmly left the cab and walked towards her condo. Adam shrugged and followed. Jen said, "We are so sorry about this. Just drive us to an ATM and we'll cover the fare."

On the ride to the bank, Jen explained how this was Adam and Melanie's first night out since they had their baby and that Melanie had drunk way too much. "Believe it or not, she's, like, really a great person. It's tough working and taking care of an infant. I think she just went a little off the deep end tonight."

"I hear you," I said. "I respect motherhood, the postpartum experience — the whole enchilada. But, honestly, I really did want to put her in the trunk."

I glanced over at the man in the shotgun seat, and I'm pretty sure I detected a nod.

"Hackie" is a biweekly column that can also be read on www.sevendaysvt.com. To reach Jernigan Pontiac, email hackie@sevendaysvt.com.

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CULTURE

Name Game '08

Another year, another list of folks whose names match their professions

STORY
KEN PICARD

FILE ILLUSTRATION
MICHAEL TONN

Though most people are unfamiliar with the word "aptronym" — and spell-checking programs tend to flag it as an error — we've all encountered the phenomenon. An aptronym is a name that all too well suits its bearer's profession, hobby or other distinguishing characteristic. Years ago, for instance, I had a camp nurse named Sandy Sheets, my uncle had a dentist named Lou Smoler and my mom knew an ophthalmologist named Dr. I. Ball. Our local weatherman was Storm Field, and a nearby veterinarian was named Dr. Barker.

Over the past 12 months, *Seven Days* staffers have compiled a list of nearly two dozen new aptronyms we chanced on in the course of our reporting. A few, like University of Vermont geographer Austin Remy Troy, aren't immediately obvious. (All three of his names are geographic places.) Then there are the *anti*-aptronyms, or names that seem to contradict their bearers' calling — such as Don Black, the former Ku Klux Klansman who founded the white supremacist website Stormfront.

Got a few good aptronyms of your own? Send them along to ken@sevendaysvt.com.

- Trevor and Russell Ashe, Barre firefighters
- Margaret Provost, St. Michael's College administrator
- Alan Quackenbush, Vermont wetlands ecologist
- John T. Coffin, St. Johnsbury funeral director
- Vern Grubinger, UVM fruit and plant expert
- Dr. Walter Russell Brain, British neurologist and author of the standard neurological text *Brain's Diseases of the Nervous System*
- Alicia Keys, pianist
- Birgitte Sloth, obesity and exercise researcher
- Bill Dolphin, cetacean researcher
- Christian Smith, sociologist of religion
- Deb Hatter, walking stick maker
- Susan Weed, herbalist
- Nancy Nipples, owner of a Seattle-area store that sells high-end dairy products
- Kook Jung, psychiatrist
- Sue and Gary Butts, owners of "Butts A Running Bare Race Management," which organizes clothing-optional runs
- John Pepper, CEO and co-founder of the Boloco burrito chain
- Joseph Boardman, Amtrak CEO
- Kathleen Newland, national refugee advocate

And two anti-aptronyms:

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WINTER READING

Rules of (Civic) Engagement

In peace-loving Waitsfield, Eugene Jarecki has the "Big Picture" and a new book on war

STORY
MIKE IVES

The American Way of War by Eugene Jarecki. Free Press, 336 pages. $26.

Eugene Jarecki discusses *The American Way of War* on Sunday, December 28, at 2:30 p.m. at Borders in Burlington. Info, 865-2711.

The sixth annual Mountaintop Film Festival runs from January 14-18, 2009, at the Big Picture Theater & Café in Waitsfield. Info, 496-8994 or www.mountaintopfilmfestival.com.

EUGENE JARECKI

Jarecki thinks the United States could use a makeover, but he isn't a polemicist.

Eugene Jarecki has a thing for Frank Capra. Specifically, the Waitsfield filmmaker likes to imagine himself as Mr. Smith from Capra's 1939 film *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, in which an unassuming scout leader fights political corruption. Jarecki says he likes how Capra's everyday Americans "exert an unexpected measure of resistance to the usual oppressive cunnings of the system."

It's not that Jarecki, 39, is an everyday sort of fellow. After graduating from Princeton in the early 1990s, he made a 2006 documentary, *Why We Fight*, that won the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival. He has also produced commercials and Hollywood features and worked as a media consultant for Jesse Jackson. His brother, Andrew Jarecki, directed *Capturing the Friedmans*, an award-winning 2003 documentary about a troubled Long Island family.

Jarecki "emigrated" from Manhattan to Vermont after 9/11. But he still keeps an office in SoHo, travels regularly to L.A. and London, and lectures about his films at universities across the U.S. A few weeks ago, he appeared on Jon Stewart's "The Daily Show" to discuss his print debut, *The American Way of War: Guided Missiles, Misguided Men, and a Republic in Peril*. The nonfiction treatise on American militarism supplements Jarecki's 2006 film. A reviewer at *The Nation* once dubbed him "The Unquiet American."

But even if he's not your average Mr. Smith, Jarecki's fascination with Frank Capra makes sense in other ways. Like Capra, he learned life lessons from his family's immigrant history, and he channels angst about American life into films about the resiliency and tragic shortcomings of everyday folk.

And, once again like Capra's characters, Jarecki is trying to make a difference in his community. Neighbors say the Big Picture Theater & Cafe in Waitsfield, which Jarecki co-founded in 2006, is an important civic space for residents of the Mad River Valley. Indeed, Jarecki notes, the Big Picture expresses his "desire to support social betterment."

Jarecki thinks the United States could use a makeover, but he isn't a polemicist. While critical of American militarism, he professes deep respect for Dwight D. Eisenhower; while eagerly anticipating the departure of George W. Bush, he won't say whether he voted for Barack Obama.

Jarecki's iconoclastic persona informs *Why We Fight*, a film about the military-industrial complex that features interviews with academics, politicians and citizens from across the political spectrum. Over the years, the filmmaker's bipartisan disposition has helped him win respect from uniformed types at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, where he now lectures part time. It comes as no surprise, then, that Jarecki's literary debut, *The American Way of War*, takes a nuanced look at the American story.

The book's central thesis is that the "American Way" has been usurped by a new paradigm in which the executive branch holds too much power. As a result, Jarecki argues, Congress can't restrain trigger-happy presidents. In addition, he says, presidents themselves are hamstrung by an annual defense budget he estimates is now nearly a trillion dollars.

Don't assume *The American Way of War* — its subtitle comes from a Martin Luther King Jr. speech — is just another bitter condemnation of the Bush administration. While Jarecki does skin the unpopular lame-duck president, he extends his critique to lionized ones such as Franklin D. Roosevelt, who imprisoned Japanese Americans and supported early research on the atomic bomb. Jarecki insists Bush *and* FDR are complicit in the country's gradual shift toward what the constitutional founders called "self-perpetuating militarism."

Some lefty critics argue that Jarecki's style isn't critical enough of the establishment, but he doesn't care. In his mind, Jarecki says, he is like a lawyer channeling heated emotions into measured, historically based inquiry. His conclusions may not satisfy everyone, he adds, but they are more likely to inspire bipartisan debate

>> 27A

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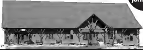

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rules of (civic) engagement

<< 24A

about the problems we face as a society.

Some readers may think Jarecki takes his time making his points in *The American Way of War*. Like his film *Why We Fight*, the book may force pacifists to reconsider their politics. But unlike the film, which reaches a dramatic climax thanks to Jarecki's expert editing, *Way of War* reads a bit like a social studies textbook.

Of course, the writer is the first to admit that studying American history is only the first step toward "boots on the ground" civic action. As he told Jon Stewart recently, he hopes *The American Way of War* will inspire a sense of common civic engagement that withered during the Bush years. "I'm on a real mission," he explained to the Comedy Central host. "The worst thing that's happened is we've become disengaged . . ."

It is as wrongheaded to think that Bush destroyed this country in the last eight years as it is to think that Barack Obama can save it in the *next* eight years.

EUGENE JARECKI

A few Saturday afternoons after his appearance on "The Daily Show," Jarecki is reading a book at the Big Picture Theater & Café, his renovated movie house in Waitsfield. Paper lanterns hang from the curvy awning, and a guy in a Santa costume waves to cars on Route 100 from the unpaved parking lot.

Inside, as the filmmaker meets a reporter at a window table, servers sell locally made mini-donuts at the bar. By the entrance, an elderly man reads a newspaper while someone hammers "Heart and Soul" on a piano. Down a corridor, in the Big Picture's high-ceilinged, couch-strewn screening room, kids are ogling contenders in a holiday gingerbread contest.

Jarecki's face lights up momentarily. "Look at all the people coming in," he says after glancing at the doorway. "We've got 70 gingerbread houses in there on display!"

Jarecki and his "longtime partner-in-crime," Claudia Becker, founded the Big Picture as a venue for activism and community building. He likens the place to the Bailey Building & Loan Association in Frank Capra's *It's a Wonderful Life*, a 1946 film where residents of fictional Bedford Falls save the bank's owner from ruin on Christmas Eve.

The Big Picture, Jarecki half-jokes, "is a hotbed of really idealistic, caring people who have an obsession with losing money and driving ourselves into bankruptcy for the right causes. The hope was that the community, like the people of Bedford Falls, would show up and do their part."

At least two influential community members are grateful for Jarecki's efforts. George Schenck, founder of nearby American Flatbread, says he appreciates how the Big Picture puts people above profit. Moreover, it's a "place of good assembly," Schenck says, for both informal community gatherings and activist happenings such as the MountainTop Human Rights Film Festival, which Becker founded in 2004 and where Jarecki launched *Why We Fight*.

"It's the kind of big, warm, dry space that is fairly rare in the small towns of Vermont," adds Schenck. "Understanding that we have a broad role to play in our communities rather than as 'providers' of place or film is important, and that's exactly what Eugene and Claudia saw."

Robin McDermott, founder of the Mad River Valley Localvore Project, calls the Big Picture a "community hub" that unites residents of Waitsfield, Warren, Fayston and Moretown. McDermott says she appreciates how Jarecki makes time to schmooze with neighbors despite his busy travel schedule. "What's totally cool is you go into the BigPicture and there's Eugene scooping ice cream!"

At his window table, Jarecki says moving to the Green Mountains was the second-best decision he ever made, after having kids. (He doesn't discuss his family or local politics on the record.) Vermont is the most intellectually stimulating state in the union, he notes, and despite recent trends toward gentrification, it's still on the cultural "fringe."

If Jarecki is so proud of Vermont, why doesn't he mention it in TV interviews or include info about the Big Picture in his author bio? When asked, Jarecki says that, while he's all about localism, he'd hate to sound as if he were patronizing audiences in Middle America with his Vermont views. "What is imperfect here would be utopian in other states."

In the meantime, Jarecki says he hopes our state will continue to model the populist spirit the country so desperately needs. He isn't naive about such obstacles as the two-party system, a crumbling economy and what he calls the "corporate-political complex." Furthermore, he warns: "It is as wrongheaded to think that Bush destroyed this country in the last eight years as it is to think that Barack Obama can save it in the next eight years."

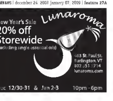
Still, like Frank Capra, Jarecki tends to see the human potential in dire circumstances. He was practically born with that instinct: His mother's family fled Russian pogroms in the late 19th century, and his father escaped Nazi Germany in 1939. Both parents were active in labor and human rights causes while running a psychiatric clinic at Yale University during the 1960s. (According to the D.C.-based Futures Industry Association, his father Henry G. Jarecki held a "position of great prominence" in the 1970s and early '80s at the world's largest gold and silver trading company. Henry, who lives in a wealthy New York City suburb, is affiliated with a New York investment bank and, according to the Center for Responsive Politics, has donated money to the Vermont Democratic Party.)

"We were taught that our lives would only make sense if they were lives dedicated to social justice and serving others with the lessons we had learned from our own suffering," recalls Jarecki.

Becker, a slim blond woman, stops by to tell her partner she's heading home. Jarecki promises to be along shortly, but after she leaves, he can't stop talking politics and social justice. As his book tour for *The American Way of War* winds down, he explains he's focusing on two separate projects, one about Ronald Reagan and the other about the American drug war.

After discussing the former president, the prison system and the economy, Jarecki pauses to watch a soft, pink sun drop behind the Appalachian Gap. He looks eager but strung out, like a rock musician at the end of a tour.

Then he walks behind the bar and pours milk into a blender. "If none of us is going to make a living in this society, which is collapsing," he says, "at least let's go down with warmth towards each other, poetry about being alive, a banana milkshake and some maple donuts." ⑦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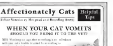
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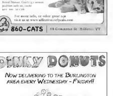
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With your support we have a store **that contributes to our community and economy.** The store is committed to educating about fair trade, local trade and sustainability – promoting **an economy based on equal access.**

With your support the Peace & Justice Center is a center for our community, **also supporting other groups working for a more just and peaceful world!**

75% of our funding comes from individuals like you. If you give generously we will be able to reach more people and be even more effective with our message of change. The opening for change is here and there has never been a more critical time to articulate the human values we share.

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As international conflicts continue, the U.S. military has increased its quotas and recruitment efforts. While recruiters offer their perspective on military life, the Peace & Justice Center's Recruiting for Peace Campaign wants to present another side. We seek to disseminate honest and valid information to youth, so that they may be better educated in making major life decisions and fully understand what to expect from a military career.

Vermont Livable Wage Campaign:

"If we had been able to stay home, with paid sick days, I am positive we would have recovered faster and not put others at risk. We look back at this period of time as barely surviving."

Lack of paid sick days has a very real impact on the health of all Vermonters, on the ability of hard-working folks to meet their basic needs, and the success of Vermont's businesses and economy. The Peace & Justice Center's Vermont Livable Wage Campaign is working to ensure that all Vermonters have the basic right to take care of their health through universal access to paid sick days.

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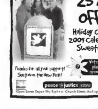
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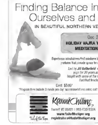
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Tail of the Tiger

getting by BY CATHY RESMER

HOW VERMONTERS ARE SURVIVING THE RECESSION

Make It Yourself

These are tough economic times. How often lately have you heard that statement, or some variation on it? Bankruptcies, budget deficits and bailouts have dominated the headlines for months. For individuals, it appears the downturn isn't going to end anytime soon.

To chronicle this episode in our collective lives, and to help us all get through it, *Seven Days* is launching a new feature called "Getting By." Each week in this space, you'll find creative, frugal strategies from Vermonters who are, like everyone, feeling the pinch.

To launch the series, I decided to interview the most resourceful person I know: my partner, Ann Elise Johnson.

Ann Elise graduated from the University of Vermont in 1999 with a degree in Plant and Soil Science. From 2000 to 2003, she owned a 7-acre organic farm in Burlington's Intervale. These days she works part time at Gardener's Supply Company and stays home three days a week with our two young children.

I used to tease Ann Elise about being *cheap* — one of my pet names for her is "Stingepot." But as our family has grown, I've been amazed at how she manages our household finances and keeps us out of credit-card debt. Her skills are keeping us afloat these days, so I asked her to share some of her belt-tightening tips.

I don't know how people live without a sewing machine.

ANN ELISE JOHNSON

Grow your own food. "We have two community garden plots. We grow sweet peas, tomatoes, potatoes, garlic, green beans, kale and chard, squash, rhubarb and herbs. The potatoes will last us through January. The garlic we use all year long."

Challenge yourself to make dinner without buying more food. "It just takes some creativity. There's almost always pasta in our cupboards. Chili and cornbread is something I can usually scrounge up. The big saver is breakfast for dinner. Crêpes, for instance: if you have frozen fruit and bananas, you can make crêpes out of flour, milk, salt and eggs. That's all you need. Or eggs and mush — the mush is grits or cornmeal. You can call it omelettes and polenta if that makes you feel better."

Shop smart. "Don't just buy what's on sale. Always look at the per unit cost. Often store brands are cheaper than a name brand on sale."

Become a thrift-store regular. "I go to the thrift store at St. Francis Xavier in Winooski every week. Everything is 50 cents. To me, stuff comes through there but there are a lot of people going in and out. I saw this old-fashioned housecoat — it was white, and it had small blue and red flowers on it, and I thought, *That would be really great material to make a quilt someday.* But I didn't buy it. Then I went back in the next day and it was gone. Even something like an ugly old housecoat goes quick."

Use a sewing machine. "I don't know how people live without a sewing machine. It's great for fixing seams. I fixed the handle on a canvas bag that had ripped. And every time you use a canvas bag at many grocery stores, you get 5 cents off. I also use my sewing machine to make gifts. This Christmas, I made three aprons, a pair of slippers, baby shoes and a set of kitchen washcloths."

Kill your television. "We don't have a TV, so we don't pay for cable. We watch TV series [on a laptop] when they come out on DVD."

Use cloth diapers and cloth baby wipes. "I make cloth wipes out of small pieces of flannel that I sew together. I wet them with a solution of Baby Bath soap, vegetable oil and water. I found the recipe online. You use it just like a disposable wipe, but you wash it over and over."

How did Ann Elise get to be so thrifty?

"When I was a kid," she explains, "my brothers and sisters and I would be out driving with my dad, and he would always stop the car and make us pick up the cans on the side of the road. If we complained, he said, 'Where do you think your Christmas-present money comes from?' You grow up with things like that, and they stick."

Ann Elise also credits her sixth- and eighth-grade classes in home economics, and a 10th-grade class in sewing. "I think home ec has been a huge help in leading a thrifty life," she says. "I feel like schools stopped pushing it because they felt it was stifling, or it made assumptions about women's future careers, but I think home ec is helpful and useful for everybody to learn in school. The skills you gain there can actually make you quite self-sufficient and liberated."

**Got a money-saving strategy or a getting-by story to share?
Email Cathy at cathy@sevendaysvt.com**

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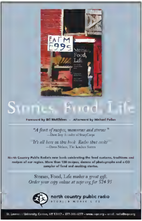
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[illegible] event calendar for more info on [illegible]

On With the Show

Guidelines for greeting 2009 at Vermont's First Night fests

Time can be tracked and overscheduled, but even the most sophisticated PDA calendar, iPhone or watch can't slow its steady passage — here today, gone tomorrow. Regardless of whether 2008 brought your lucky day in the form of a personal or political victory, the year is officially history come December 31. New Year's Eve revelers sift through the good stuff from the past 365 sun ups — and clear the slate for the future — at one of three family-friendly First Night celebrations across the state.

You know the drill: Buy a button, pin it to your warmest coat and tramp around town sampling a variety of alcohol-free events. Burlington boasts the biggest program, with 12 hours of activities providing continuous warm-hearted fun for cold-handed folks. Diversions range from art making to elegant aerial and acrobatic offerings from Brattleboro-based Genius Trapeze and the kids of Circus Smirkus. Vocal enthusiasts lend an ear to melodies by blues singer Tammy Fletcher and singer-songwriter Patrick Fitzsimmons, put their feet up for restful anthems by Social Band, or hear all-ukulele duets from the women's a cappella chorus of Mount Mansfield Union High School. Jazzers jive to up-and-coming youth talents Chloe Brisson and Erin Bentlage. Yuksters chuckle at musical-comedy faux siblings The Hokum Brothers. Husband-and-wife storytelling duo The Laughing Couple tell Abenaki tales. And all that covers just a corner of the evening's canvas. Fireworks in Waterfront Park paint the town parti-colored at 7 p.m. and midnight.

Rutland is out of the First Night game this year, but in Montpelier and St. Johnsbury the action gets underway in midafternoon. Capital City celebrants can start out with ice skating or a 5K road race, learn the score from the Vermont Fiddle Orchestra, pick up the beat with Oasis Middle Eastern Dance and finally settle in for classical compositions with flutist Karen Kevra or pianist Michael Arnowitt. A choice of chili or lasagna supper gives viewers stamina for the parade and early-bird fireworks from 8 to 9. Rounding out the evening, The Chrome Cowboys play until midnight at a city-wide dance party — then send tired saddle riders home. St. Johnsbury joy seekers take a turn at public karaoke, gaze at a starry planetarium show by Fairbanks Museum staff, do some contra dancing, or catch a concert. Parents of little kids can opt for magic shows or a mini-circus, but if tykes want to see sky blossoms, they'll have to stay up till 12 to bring in the new year with a bang.

Volunteers are needed in each of the three cities; those who sign up for a few hours' work receive a free button and, in Montpelier's case, a meal.

Here's to a fine 2009!

— MEGHAN DEWALD

QUAD SQUAD

Champlain Valley residents can bet that 2009 will bring a closer look at the French explorer for whom their lake is named — Samuel de Champlain's "discovery" of it and the native peoples living there put him on the map 400 years ago. This summer, Vermont, New York, Québec and France join forces for a quadricentennial party slated for the Queen City's waterfront, and Burlington's First Night kicks off the celebrations with a preview parade. Abenaki singing and chanting fill the air, and large-scale salmon, bear and osprey puppets accompany the customary dragons and drums. (For those who can't get into the troupe's two ticketed Flynn stage shows, it's another chance to catch Burlington Taiko.) After a festive participatory march down the Marketplace, revelers congregate in front of City Hall. There, as many as 10 music, dance and storytelling ensembles from this year's First Night lineup offer snippets of performances representing "the lake, the land and the people," plus a peek at plans for July's multifaceted fest honoring Native American and French-Canadian arts, culture and history.

"400 Years Together Parade"
Church Street Marketplace to City Hall Park, Burlington
7-8:30 p.m.
www.champlain400.com
www.burlingtontaiko.org

TALENT TAKE-OUT

New Year's inspires fixation on the future — and what better time to showcase an up-and-coming generation? In keeping with a nascent annual tradition, First Night Burlington has multiple venues where local legends trade stage space with tomorrow's performers. Half a dozen young local movement, music and theater soloists and ensembles, including Spotlight on Dance (pictured), highlight the skills of middle- and high-school students. Five celebrity judges join emcee and "Late Night Saturday" host Tim Kavanagh for the Rising Star Search, where teens tussle for the chance to gig on Kavanagh's WCAX show. The Williston-based trad folk rock quartet Pale Fire — talent show torch bearers, since they were last year's runners-up — ignite the night's proceedings with sparky sounds.

Spotlight on Dance
Edmunds Middle School, Burlington, 1-1:40 p.m. & 6-6:40 p.m.
www.spotlightondance.com

Rising Star Search
Main Floor, Memorial Auditorium, Burlington, 8-10:30 p.m.
www.myspace.com/palefirevt

SOAP ON A ROPE

Anyone can blow bubbles but it takes patience and skill to "train" them. In a tabletop show developed by Circus Smirkus founder Rob Mermin, a squeaky-clean routine features nature's most efficient encapsulations of air. Bubbles appear inside each other, form squares, pyramids and other shapes, and "walk" a tightrope in this miniature circus. Successes are made sweeter by the inevitable — and unpredictable — pops of the "performers," and audience participation is encouraged. Why do some bubbles cave to atmospheric pressure sooner? Just ask. After 30 minutes devoted to the evanescent spheres, with musical accompaniment, Mermin does a Q&A on the science and technique of soapy stunts.

Bubble Brothers Soap Suds Circus
Unitarian Church Vestry, Burlington, 5-6:45 p.m.

A MIGHTY WIND

Even in the mildest winter, no one welcomes a northerly breeze. Unless, of course, it happens to be Le Vent du Nord. The Québecois quartet has taken the folk world by storm with a high-energy mixture of instrumentalism, *joie de vivre* step dancing and four-part a cappella harmonies. Since 2002, the band has racked up international laurels for its lively updates of authentic Francophone tunes. The group's most recent recording, *Dans les airs*, has been tapped for "Best Traditional" at the Canadian Folk Music Awards. Members span two generations and play at least nine instruments between them, including the bodhran, bones, jaw harp and hurdy gurdy. Listeners won't be able to keep their feet still. But then again, who'd want to?

Le Vent du Nord
Flynn MainStage, Burlington, 8-10 p.m. www.leventdunord.com

★ FIRST NIGHT BURLINGTON

Buttons for adults and kids 13 and older cost $15 through December 24, $20 from December 26 to 31. Kids' buttons are always $5. With a button, $2 advance tickets guarantee seats at Flynn MainStage and Memorial Auditorium Main Floor shows. Buttons and programs are available at various locations; tickets are available online or in person at 230 College Street, or from a First Night kiosk in the Burlington Town Center Mall. Tickets ordered in advance are available for pickup at a will-call office on the first floor of City Hall. Various song, storytelling and theater shows include American Sign Language interpretation. For details and a full schedule of events, check the First Night Burlington website, call the TTY/TDD assisted line at the Flynn Center (863-5966), or use the State of Vermont's relay system (1-800-253-0195) to call the First Night Burlington office. A free CCTA shuttle ferries First Nighters to and from UVM's Gutterson Fieldhouse parking lot; city-owned garages and metered spaces are free after noon on December 31. Info, www.firstnightburlington.com, or call 863-6005 or 1-800-639-9252.

>> 34A

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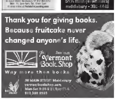

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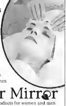

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on with the show

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COMPANY'S CALLING

Vermont can lay claim to its fair share of folk musicians, but Woods Tea Company stands among the giants of the state's guitar-strumming scene. The four-person band has toured almost incessantly for the past 23 years, entertaining both regional and national audiences. Though the lineup has evolved since the 2007 passing of founder Rusty Jacobs, the quality of molto instrumental musicianship has remained high. Green Mountain State songbird Patti Casey recently added her talents to the Woods kitchen-table sound. The members of the Tea Company do play bluegrass and sing chanteys, and French Canadian clogging features in some numbers, but if they had to lay claim to one musical tradition, it would probably be Celtic. Put yourself in good company at the band's back-to-back St. Johnsbury sets, or catch Casey in solo concert an hour later.

Woods Tea Company
North Congregational Church, St. Johnsbury, 7-8:45 p.m.
www.woodstea.net

Patti Casey
South Congregational Church, St. Johnsbury, 10-10:45 p.m.
www.patticasey.com

ONE RING BINDER

Despite their name, Barbara Paulson and Dan Baginski, founders of the Randolph-based No Strings Marionette Company, do use threads to move their puppets — they're just not shy about showing it. Their modus operandi entails letting the audience watch them animate their handcrafted figurines during performances — so the puppets get jerked around, but spectators see what's what. The duo entertains kids and adults alike with their new small-stage adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit*. Under the wizard Gandalf's guidance, furry-footed "halfling" hero Bilbo Baggins joins a group of dwarves to reclaim a dragon's hoard, and his discovery of an all-powerful bauble results in the realization that Tolkien's characters are, well, puppets in a larger epic. First Night attendees settle in for No Strings' fantasy fete at two separate performances in Montpelier and St. Johnsbury.

No Strings Marionette Company
Union School Gym, Montpelier, 3-4:45 p.m.
Fuller Hall, St. Johnsbury Academy, St. Johnsbury, 8:30-9:45 p.m.
www.nostringsvt.com

★ FIRST NIGHT MONTPELIER

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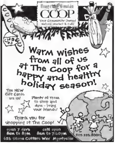

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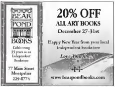

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PAULA SPERRY (LEFT) AND MARIE CLAIRE

Friends of Freyne

After he stopped writing his weekly political column for *Seven Days* last June, Peter Freyne found a regular, less stressful ritual at Speeder & Earl's on Pine Street in Burlington. "He came in two or three times a day ... for a bottomless cup of coffee and usually a *New York Times*," recalls barista Paula Sperry, 25. Though the former journalist could be "prickly," she says, "for some reason, we had a really good connection. We'd talk a lot."

"Paula was definitely his favorite," manager Marie Claire says of Freyne, who beat cancer before he retired his popular "Inside Track" column. Parked at "his" table by the window next to the drink cooler, he "got to know all the other people here, too. It was like he worked here, except he didn't get paid. He wasn't just a regular, he became a friend to everybody."

Of course, 59-year-old Freyne, who lived alone, had no idea that all that coffee and conversation would literally save his life. When he failed to show up at Speeder's for four consecutive days in September, Sperry did something no barista at a national chain would be likely even to consider: She noticed. She worried. And then she took action.

She and Claire found Freyne in the phone book. When their calls to him went unanswered, Claire ventured to Freyne's Hayward Street apartment with another employee. "We knocked on his door and peered through the windows. We were about to give up when I saw him sitting in a chair, in a dark room, and I saw him move his arm. So we knew he wasn't dead," she recalls. "But if he was alive and not answering the door, something was amiss. That's when I came back here and called *Seven Days*."

After getting her call, Cathy Resmer and I did our own exterior search of Freyne's place, noting the car in the driveway, the day's mail still in the box outside. We peered in the windows, too, but didn't see Peter. Cathy got the landlord's name off his mailbox before we returned to the office on a Friday afternoon and called the cops. Some time over the weekend, the landlord called Cathy to say he had let himself into Freyne's apartment and found no one there.

We tried to imagine Freyne on an exotic trip, or having a wild love affair. But in fact he'd already been transported to Fletcher Allen — with a massive strep infection that had spread to his brain. The cops didn't let us know, we later learned, because they don't have enough personnel to call back on "welfare checks." Privacy laws prevent the hospital from discussing a patient's medical condition with anyone who isn't a relative.

So how did we find out about Freyne's condition? Not from Peter, who was basically unconscious. A third Speeder's employee — who is also Freyne's neighbor — saw the ambulance take him away on Friday afternoon. If we hadn't called the hospital and explained that we are Peter's only "family" in the area, he would have been on his own.

Seven Days co-owner Pamela Polston has since become Freyne's legal guardian. Three months of tests and treatment later, he is rehabilitating at Starr Farm Nursing Center.

"This is exactly the way the community should be taking care of each other," Burlington Police Chief Michael Schirling says of the situation, noting that it's unusual for a welfare check to come from a business. "Know your neighbors," he continues. "If you sense a change in normal behavior, or you don't see them for a day, or the newspapers start to pile up, it's probably a good idea to have a family contact person. If all of that fails, you can always call us."

But don't expect to hear back. It's definitely "a hole in the system," Schirling acknowledges. "One of the things I'd love to do in the future is to follow up with every person who makes a report, or complains about something, with a phone call. It's high on my wish list." After noting that the police department's limited resources dictate prioritizing, he adds, "But I need to know where it is on the community's wish list."

Luckily for all of us, and particularly for Peter Freyne, we belong to a great one.

PAULA ROUTLY

WINTER READING

Culture Shocked

Peter Miller's new book of essays trains a wistful eye on Vermont

STORY
MIKE IVES

IMAGES
COURTESY OF PETER MILLER

***Nothing Hardly Ever Happens in Colbyville, Vermont* by Peter Miller. Silver Print Editions. 162 pages. $20. Available at most local bookstores or from silverprintpress.com.**

Peter Miller has slept in the same Colbyville house since 1968, save for a few years in New York City. Back when central Vermont was more rural, the photographer-writer would sit at his desk watching farm animals. "I learned a lot about sex," he recalls wryly, referring to a 1970 essay he penned about a pig that "porked" a sheep. Over the years, Miller, now 74, made a few adjustments to his 1850 former farmhouse, a shaded residence near the Ben & Jerry's factory on Route 100. He transformed his attic into cozy living quarters while leaving the first floor for studio and office space. Last December, he converted part of the downstairs into a gallery for his black-and-white photographs.

Miller is best known as a photographer whose iconic images have been showcased in attractive picture books such as *Vermont People* (1990), *Vermont Farm Women* (2002) and *Vermont Gathering Places* (2005). His works tend to focus on rural, and often disappearing, ways of life in the Green Mountain State. Perhaps that's why the state legislature honored him as "Vermonter of the Year" in 2006.

But Miller is a capable writer, too: his lucid prose anchors his photo books, and he's contributed to a variety of local publications for years. Some of Miller's deadpan treatises on his beloved state address how its spirit has withered, in his opinion, since he first made its acquaintance. Twenty-eight of his essays were recently published, by his own Silver Print Press, in a collection called *Nothing Hardly Ever Happens in Colbyville, Vermont*.

"I'd probably be a much better writer if that's all I did, and I'd probably be a much better photographer if *that's* all I did," sums up Miller, a soft-spoken guy with gray hair and glasses. "But the way I'm structured — the two work together."

A few Sundays ago, Miller threw a book-release party for *Nothing Hardly* at, appropriately, his home in Colbyville (the older name for what's now officially a corner of Waterbury). He donned an orange ski jacket and strolled outside, where a caterer was serving roasted pig, dilly beans and other homey fare to the neighbors, writers, artists and others who gathered to help him celebrate. Inside the gallery, assistants offered deals on photos and autographed books.

Miller has grown wary of the changes around Waterbury since he settled there. Sure, he likes George Woodard, a nearby dairy farmer, actor and filmmaker who blurbed *Nothing Hardly* ("An honest and sometimes raw anthology from the Colbyville curmudgeon"), and who helped himself to pork at the book-release party. But Miller has never gotten over the arrival of tourist-friendly Ben & Jerry's three decades ago. And don't get him started on Route 100 traffic, which has increased from about 500 cars per day 40 years ago to 14,500 today, according to the Vermont Agency of Transportation.

A few of the essays in *Nothing Hardly* have appeared in outdoors magazines, as well as *Vermont Life* and *Stowe Reporter*. Others were never published, or were written for the book. Many scenes take place in the forest or atop ski slopes. But the book is more than just a quirky portrait of one man's life in the Green Mountains; it's an ode to *his* Vermont, a place sometimes susceptible and sometimes stubbornly resistant to sprawl, SUVs and other accoutrements of gentrification.

Miller likes to present his critiques of bourgeois values as snarky pastoral laments. In "The Dropout Capital of the East," about Stowe in the 1960s, he complains that "tract mansion acne" is now a blemish on his beloved terrain. "I'm from Vermont," he concludes. "I do what I want, but it just ain't as easy." In "I Perish: Confessions of a Duck Hunting Addict Gone Astray" (an essay rejected by *Vermont Life* in the '70s), Miller chronicles illegal hunts on land owned by the venerable Webb family of Shelburne Farms. "Mr. Webb, have you ever eaten black duck that has been poached?" he asks in a letter he sent to Webb. "There's no finer-tasting bird in the world, particularly if it's been summering on your property."

Of course, even Miller admits his "woodchuck" writing voice is affected. After all, he's not a native. Miller and his family moved to Weston, Vermont, from Connecticut when he was a teenager. After studying literature at the University of Toronto, he went to Paris, where he snapped shots of Camus and Sartre under guidance from Canadian portrait photographer Yousuf Karsh. Following a stint as an army photographer (the experience informed his 1999 memoir *The First Time I Saw Paris*), Miller moved to New York City to work as a reporter for *Life* from 1958 to '64.

Rather than discrediting his adopted old-timer tone, though, Miller's cosmopolitan background lends his writing a comic sparkle. Consider his paean to poaching: Even while bemoaning "flatlanders," he suggests, with tongue in cheek, that black ducks are "one of the world's great delicacies when served with sauce *a la* Grand Marnier." In another piece, Miller satirically suggests an anti-gay marriage friend loves his male dog enough to marry him, but won't admit it: "Mr. Rose is not in the closet, but he is in the doghouse when it comes to canines."

Not all the writing is so flip; sometimes Miller's breezy tone leads him straight into heady emotional terrain. In "The Suicide," for example, what begins as a light meditation on hunting turns into a heartbreaking elegy for a man who set himself on fire in a Vermont forest. In "Spring Skiing," a 1980 article for *Ski Magazine*, a friend's death prompts an epiphany. "Always look ahead during the run," Miller tells himself. "For the next slope could be the best yet, and the best runs come at the end of the season . . ."

By contrast, Miller's eulogy for the Twin Towers is so cursory it feels tired. And after reading in a 1996 essay, "I miss the sweet smell of fallen leaves, cured by frost and sun . . . within the woods and mowings of Vermont hidden so far away," one might be forgiven for preferring Miller the Curmudgeon to Miller the Lyric Poet.

On a recent post-book party afternoon in Miller's studio, he revealed that his essay collection isn't the only archival project on his docket. His drafty rooms are filled with filing cabinets that contain old photographs, some dating back to the 1950s. In a back corner near his massive digital printer, manila folders are labeled by subject matter, such as "Sleigh Ride '69" or "Route 66 Oklahoma." Miller's assistant, Amber Sulack, has been sifting through the prints since this summer.

"For an individual artist, it's pretty comprehensive," said the cheerful twentysomething, who has a master's degree in photo archiving. "It seems as though you've saved almost everything."

"I could drop off dead, so I've got to get my stuff together," Miller replied laconically.

The two have been scanning the photographs, but it would cost at least $50,000 to file them in a digital archive, and Miller doesn't have the money. Brent Bjorkman, executive director of

PETER MILLER

Some of Miller's deadpan treatises on his beloved state address how its spirit has withered, in his opinion, since he first made its acquaintance.

the Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury, visited Miller's studio last year and thinks such an archive would be a valuable addition to his institution's collection. But he admits it will be hard to collect grant money in such a "tight funding environment."

Miller isn't holding his breath; he's already considering several other projects, such as a book about alcohol, a book of photographs inspired by Robert Frost's poems, and a collection of stories about his days in 1980s New York. In the meantime, Miller's multiroom gallery offers a visual survey of his adult life.

Just before sunset, the photographer led a tour through the space. One room offers up prints of that infamous animal sex act he witnessed in 1970. Another chronicles his travels among French wine-country peasants in the 1950s. In the last, there's a recent 20-by-34-inch portrait of George Woodard's 1950 Ford pickup, as well as a photo of Fred Tuttle, a Tunbridge dairy farmer famous for his performance in *Man with a Plan*, a 1996 film by Tuttle's neighbor John O'Brien. A touching account of Tuttle's funeral appears in *Nothing Hardly*. In Miller's image, though, Tuttle stands in front of his Tunbridge barn holding a framed picture of his father, Joe — an image in which Joe holds a photograph of *his* father. It's classic Miller: reverence for Yankee tradition served with a dash of humor and a keen sense of composition.

Miller stared at this print and sighed, then lamented how art seems less important during hard economic times. "Nobody's buying anything now," he said. "What they need is fuel oil."

Miller climbed a spiral staircase and shuffled around his apartment in the twilight. The space is a patchwork of nooks — some contain photography gear, others magazines, file folders or heaps of clothing. It was chilly enough to keep one's sweater on. Glancing outside at some leafless apple trees, Miller explained that his two daughters, who live in London and Oregon, respectively, badger him to move to a warmer climate — or at least into a smaller house. "*Dad, you don't need this place, you don't need to do all this,*" Miller mimicked.

"They want me to downsize my life," he said. "I really can't do that until I get my archiving done." ⊙

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Four-Star Exhibit

EXHIBIT
Philip Robertson, Cynthia Ross, Arthur Zorn and Alana LaPoint, Artpath Gallery, Burlington. Through January

ARTWORK
"Line Dance" by Arthur Zorn

PHOTO
Marc Awodey

A broad range of artistic influences is displayed by the four current exhibitors at Burlington's Artpath Gallery. Two delve deeply into art history; one explores the spiritual meaning of organic forms, and another is primarily inspired by her inner muse, along with an odd piece of dental technology.

Arthur Zorn's "Visual Improvisations" is a group of 13 paintings, including large-scale multipaneled works. He combines abstract sensibilities with sophisticated chromatic harmonies. The 72-by-60-inch diptych "Glass Warm Stare" is a figurative abstraction of swoops and lines between two human figures flattened in a manner that recalls late-phase cubism. Zorn rarely varies his weight of line, and in the diptych his chromatic range goes from pale blues to lavender to emerald green.

His "Graffiti" is made from six 18-by-24-inch panels arranged three over three. The black canvases are conjoined, and Zorn attacked them à la Pollock with acrylic brushwork and enamel spray paint. White and orange lines lace the composition together. Zorn's 36-by-24-inch "Line Dance" is similarly scribbled, as calligraphic white lines form the topmost layer applied over a shimmering dark field.

Philip Robertson's contribution of 17 prints — including "Post Neo Romantic Landscapes" — is both highly informed by the past and innovative. "After Courbet" is a small black-and-white monotype based on a shore scene by the Barbizon School painter Gustave Courbet. Other prints make references to Van Gogh with components akin to "Starry Night," and they integrate mark making with Robertson's printmaking techniques.

Like the impressionists, Robertson draws heavily on Asian traditions. "Meditation Scroll III" is a 40-by-20-inch vertical hanging scroll of four black prints sewn together by hand. The prints form an expressive black-and-white landscape with a stand of trees on the left side of the repeating compositions.

"Transformational Anatomy" is the title of Cynthia Ross' exhibit, which includes 11 textiles, five mixed-media paintings and two 21-inch vertically hung, wall-mounted sculptures called "Cocoon." The last are broadly wrapped like mummies. Their scale — more akin to human infants than pupal casings — adds mystery. Ross reuses that image in her paintings, the "Modes of Transformation" series.

"Ahamkara" is Ross' largest textile piece here. The box-framed 54-by-21-inch iconic image consists of a cocoon silhouette on canvas, with a floral-and-centipede hybrid form in white cloth sewn inside. At its head is a large flower. Of all her cocoon works, the title "Ahamkara" sheds the most light on Ross' intentions. The Vedic term, found in the *Yoga Sutras of Patanjali* and other sources, relates to both the distinctiveness and the transformative strength of Ego. Ross seems to be creating visual manifestations of that concept.

The ink paintings in Alana LaPoint's "Stranger Folk" exhibit were created using a technical novelty: a syringe for irrigating the sockets left by tooth extraction. (She describes the discovery of that tool in her artist statement.) In LaPoint's 20-by-24-inch ink-and-watercolor-on-paper piece "Please Don't Go," an abstracted face is described in a delicate fugue of drawn (and maybe injected) black lines. The face is as beautiful as any found in the works of Paul Klee. LaPoint's subtle gradations of light earth tones, pink and blue illuminate her shapes and move the viewer's eye slowly across the picture plane.

This quartet of collections makes for another intriguing Artpath exhibition. More than just a pass-through for waterfront walkers, that narrow gallery should be considered a destination — especially in the winter.

MARC AWODEY

One of the artists is primarily inspired by her inner muse, along with an odd piece of dental technology.

<exhibitions>

CALL TO ARTISTS

BISTRO SAUCE NEEDS ART Bistro Sauce is looking for creative local artists to exhibit work at the Shelburne restaurant. Local foods. Local art. Info, Tiffany Caldwell, bistrosauce@yahoo.com, 985-2830.

STAART GALLERY OPENINGS The St. Albans gallery currently has wall space available for non-juried, noncommission-based artwork. Co-op style venue, downtown location, events. Info, staartgallery@gmail.com, 324-5700, www.staartgallery.com.

THE DAILY PLANET The Burlington restaurant/bar is seeking artists for monthly exhibits starting in January. Info, dailyplanet13@verizon.net, 862-9647.

TALKS & EVENTS

DAVID KEARNS The new Burlington City Arts Artist-in-Residence invites the public to see his works in progress during the city's First Friday Art Walk and every Saturday afternoon in December. Saturday, December 27, 12-3 p.m., Firehouse Center for the Visual Arts, Burlington. Info, 865-7166.

JANUARY FIRST FRIDAY More than 40 galleries and other art venues stay open late to welcome pedestrian viewers around downtown. Friday, January 2, 5-8 p.m., Burlington. Info, 264-4839.

RECEPTIONS

AIMEE DANIEL: "Life Abstractions," manipulated color photographs of natural and organic forms. January 1 through 31 at Red Square in Burlington. Reception: Friday, January 2, 5-8 p.m. Info, 318-2438.

JASON MALLERY: "Timeline: 2 1/2 Dimensions," mixed media paintings and photography. January 1 through 31 at The Green Bean Art Gallery at Capitol Grounds in Montpelier. Reception: Sunday, January 4, 2-4 p.m. Info, artwbield23@yahoo.com.

ONGOING

burlington area

ANNE STREET BAILEY: Paintings, landscapes and botanicals. Gates 1 & 2. **JOSEPH B. BOQUE:** Abstract paintings. Skyway, and **GRAZIELLA WEBER-GRASSI:** Acrylic paintings. Escalator. Through December 31 at Burlington Airport in South Burlington. Info, 865-7166.

BRIAN MOHR & EMILY JOHNSON: "Winter," a selection of black-and-white images from the couple's "Wild People, Wild Places" series captured outdoors in Vermont and beyond. Ten percent of sales benefit conservation work in the state, and in the Andes and Arctic. Through December 31 at City Market in Burlington. Info, 496-5434.

CAROLYN SHATTUCK: The Vermont painter is highlighted at the gallery's 16th annual winter exhibition, which also features works by 13 other regional artists. Through January 31 at Furchgott Sourdiffe Gallery in Shelburne. Info, 985-3848.

'CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS': New oil paintings of landscape and architecture by Carolyn Walton, Deborah Camden and Mitzi Valentine, along with jewelry by Tineke Russell. Through December 30 at Luxton-Jones Gallery in Shelburne. Info, 985-8223.

CIARAN BRENNAN: "Photographic Solution," color photographs by the Essex Junction artist about reliving and retelling the stories of our lives. Through December 31 at Kasini House in Burlington. Info, 264-4839.

DELIA ROBINSON: "The Illustrated Nose," paintings and black-and-white illustrations created for Vermont author Marc Estrin's *The Annotated Nose*. Through January 3 at Amy E. Tarrant Gallery, Flynn Center, in Burlington. Info, 652-4500.

DICK BRUNELLE: New contemporary watercolors and acrylic paintings. Through January 31 at Penny Cluse Café in Burlington. Info, 864-0389.

PLEASE NOTE: Exhibitions are written by **Pamela Polston**; spotlights written by **Marc Awodey**.

Listings are restricted to exhibits in truly public places; exceptions may be made at the discretion of the editor.

Submit art exhibitions at **www.sevendaysvt.com/art** or send via email by Thursday at 5 p.m., including info phone number to **galleries@sevendaysvt.com**.

AIMEE DANIEL Her manipulated color photographs put a different spin on the natural world. January 1-31 at Red Square in Burlington, with a reception January 2, 5-8 p.m.

DINA SENESAC "Cold Front," a variety of reasonably priced artworks. Through December 28 at Rose Street Artists' Co-op in Burlington. Info, 343-0703.

FALL/WINTER AT THE MALTEX A group show on all four floors presents paintings, photographs and steel sculpture by nine local artists. Through February 28 at the Maltex Building in Burlington. Info, 865-7166.

JODI WHALEN New abstract paintings of city skylines by the Vermont artist. Through January 1 at Daily Planet in Burlington. Info, 862-9647.

JOHN MATUSZ "Exploring the Figure," drawings in charcoal and pastel, and a welded-steel sculpture entitled "The Wrestler." Through December 31 at The Men's Room in Burlington. Info, 864-2088.

JUDE BOND "Yours Till Niagara Falls: Brides and Grooms and Honeymoons," silver gelatin prints with Niagara Falls as a backdrop: a celebration of love, marriage and attractions. Through January 4 at 215 College Artists' Cooperative in Burlington. Info, 863-3662.

KAREN DAWSON "Favorite Places," landscape paintings in oil, acrylic and mixed media. Through December 31 at Davis Center, UVM, in Burlington. Info, 865-1208.

KYLE THOMPSON "Lock & Load," the artist also known as rapper Fattie B shows his newest collection of acrylics on canvas. Through January 10 at 1/2 Lounge in Burlington. Info, 238-2460.

LYNN POWERS The Essex Art League member shows her works. Through December 31 at Essex Town Offices. Info, 862-3014.

MAGGIE STANDLEY "The Spin Stops Here," abstract, mixed-media paintings exploring the theme of lucidity. Through December 31 at Muddy Waters in Burlington. Info, 233-7676.

NORI LUPFER Abstract monoprints, Gates 1 & 2; **TOM CULLINS** Watercolors, Skyway; and **GRAZIELLA WEBER-GRASSI** Oil paintings, Escalator. Through January 31 at Burlington Airport in South Burlington. Info, 865-7166.

PETER ISLES New and selected works in paint, plaster and paper. Through January 14 at Drink in Burlington. Info, 434-5953.

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Illustration by Katie Flindall

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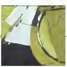


EyeWitness BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

TAKING NOTE OF VISUAL VERMONT

PAINTING IMAGES COURTESY OF TOM COLLINS

Second Chance

As Tom Collins discusses his philosophy of art, it becomes apparent that he could also be talking about his philosophy of life. "It's easy to go back to success you've had, and to stay with that," he said during an interview last week at the Burlington airport. "But what really excites me is finding new arenas. I want to be inventing work that isn't regurgitating older work."

A few years ago, Collins started focusing on his lifelong passion for painting, after a four-decade career as an architect in Burlington and Greece. He now composes watercolors at his two homes: one above the Church Street Marketplace and the other on the Greek island of Kea. Both are shared with his wife, Kelly Collins, who recently retired as director of the study-abroad program at St. Michael's College. The couple have a daughter who works as an opera singer in Bogotá, Colombia.

Collins, a trim and animated 66-year-old, says he feels no regret that he devoted most of his adult life to architecture rather than to painting. He certainly distinguished himself in his chosen field. He was the lead designer for one of Burlington's most prominent downtown buildings, St. Paul's Cathedral. Other signature works he created at the firm he co-owns — Truex Cullins & Partners — include the library student center and a residence hall at Champlain College. Architecture is still the way he makes a living; he's currently designing an eco-resort in the Bahamas.

Collins does seem a bit wistful about his choices, though. Painting affords greater creative freedom than does architecture, he acknowledges. "Being an architect is about listening to the client; painting is about listening to myself."

The freedom represented by a blank sheet of watercolor paper can be "frightening," he cautions. And there's also the consideration that most architects make a lot more money than do most painters. But, based on the 20 or so predominantly abstract works currently hanging in a hallway at the airport (a venue curated by Burlington City Arts), it does seem that Collins could've been a contender.

His small-scale pieces display a sure sense of form, light and color. Some riff cubistically on the white buildings and blue sea of Kea. In others, it's hard to discern any representational origins, although Collins explains that one geometric work featuring slablike orange planes was inspired by a Vermont quarry. The influence of California abstractionist Richard Diebenkorn — "my favorite artist!" Collins exclaims — is particularly evident in this piece. And the analytical cubism pioneered by Georges Braque can be seen as an antecedent to Collins' Kea town- and seascapes.

Even so, his style doesn't look derivative. Collins says, in fact, that although he usually works from life or from photos, he often can't tell where a painting will take him. "It's a form of magic that happens on the paper," he says. "I can go off in a totally unanticipated direction."

A couple of the paintings at the airport remain anchored in the familiar. There's a sunny sidewalk cafe in Crete, for example, and a view of the Perkins Pier area that may cause locals to marvel at how urban Collins has made it appear.

He says he finds abstraction "more stimulating, more dynamic" than realism. And despite the unforgiving properties of watercolor — no pentiments are possible — Collins prefers that medium over oil or acrylic. "I love the layering and transparency that's possible with watercolor and also the way you can dramatize forms and show shadow and shade."

Collins also likes the opportunities watercolor offers for incorporating negative space into a composition. "Kea, Greece II" is bisected diagonally with pastels and browns suggesting buildings and trees in the upper left portion of the sheet and empty whiteness filling the lower right. "With watercolor," Collins comments, "it's often more important what you don't do than what you do do."

Having worked in this medium since his undergraduate days at Syracuse University, Collins does know what he's doing with watercolor. In that era, he was trained in the tradition of rendering architectural schemes in watercolor washes. And it proved more than a mere classroom exercise. Collins compiled a portfolio of watercolors as well as oil paintings that he submitted as part of his application to the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

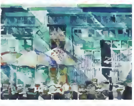
That 1963-68 interlude in upstate New York and Cambridge, along with the five years in the '80s when he ran an architectural office in Athens, were breakaway moves by hometown Tom. Collins is a fourth-generation Vermonter on both his maternal and paternal sides. His family has been rooted in the Burlington area since the early 1900s.

A second home on a Greek isle offers a spectacular alternative to his Church Street loft, but Collins doesn't find the Queen City confining. It's got "a great little arts community," he notes, and he and Kelly often make the convenient trip to Montréal to visit museums and galleries.

Collins also enjoys a surprising hobby in Burlington's back alleys: dumpster diving. Or rather, shooting. "The trash creates patterning on the dumpsters that reminds me of Diebenkorn or [Abstract Expressionist Franz] Kline," he explains. A serious photographer as well as painter, Collins takes pictures of those patterns and works off them in creating some of his watercolor abstractions.

If you happen to be flying before the end of January, step out of the passenger parade — also, the queue for the security checkout — and have a look at Collins' paintings on the second floor. They might be just as transporting as a flight to Florida. ⦿

[illegible]



<exhibitions>

ONGOING << 41A

PHILIP ROBERTSON "Post Neo Romantic Landscapes" **CYNTHIA ROSS** "Transformational Anatomy" **ARTHUR ZORN** "Visual Improvisations" and **ALANA LAPOINT** "Stranger Folk" all paintings and **ELLIS JACOBSON** "Moment of Clarity," sculpture. Through January 31 at Artpath Gallery in Burlington. Info, 563-2273.

'PICTORIAL HISTORY OF VERMONT JEWS' A photographic and informational exhibit about Burlington's old Jewish neighborhoods. Through January 16 at Metropolitan Gallery, Burlington City Hall. Info, 865-7166.

SUSAN LARKIN "Landscapes of the Champlain Islands," oil paintings by the Isle La Motte artist. Through December 28 at Trihoca in Burlington. Info, 928-3081.

TERRY HAUPTMAN & JERRY BEIER "Veiled Lineage," sculpture, painting and installation that explore concepts of lineage, ancestry and tradition, part of the city's quadricentennial celebrations. Also on view: **JENNIFER ALFORA & GUILLERMO CALZADILLA:** "Landmarks," videos shot on Vieques that explore postcolonial politics and the role of the artist to challenge authority. Through February 14 at Firehouse Gallery in Burlington. Info, 865-7165.

VIOLETA HINOJOSA "Abstract World," paintings. Through December 31 at Red Square in Burlington. Info, 318-2438.

VLADIMIR VAGIN The internationally renowned children's book illustrator will exhibit his original artwork from classic books including *The Firebird* and *Nutcracker Ballet*. Through December 31 at Fletcher Free Library in Burlington. Info, 865-7211.

'WINTER DAYDREAMS' Works in photography, watercolor, sculpture and folk art by area artists Dan Doyle, James Goss, Happy Marsh, Nancy Levine and H. Lapine. Through December 31 at The Cupola House Gallery in Essex.

'WINTER WHIMSEY' Members of the Essex Art League exhibit winter scenes in various media and still-life studies. Through December 31 at Phoenix Books in Essex. Info, 862-3014.

'WRITTEN ON THE WIND: CONTEMPORARY TIBETAN PRAYER FLAGS' Prayer flags, or *dar cho* in Tibetan, have been used to represent good will toward all beings in Himalayan culture for thousands of years; this exhibition features modern versions commissioned by the Rubin Museum of Art from artists around the world. Through January 3 at Firehouse Center for the Visual Arts in Burlington. Info, 865-7166.

WYLIE SOFIA GARCIA & JAKE RIFKIN "Twisted," new work from the local artists, including wire sculpture, ink drawings and mixed textiles. Through December 30 at Flynndog in Burlington. Info, 863-2227.

central

ADAM CONWAY & ROBYN PEIRCE "Free Range," functional pottery and cage-free critter paintings, respectively. Through December 31 at The Green Bean Art Gallery at Capitol Grounds in Montpelier. Info, artwhirled23@yahoo.com.

ART RESOURCE ASSOCIATION Members of the Vermont artists group put on a holiday show in multiple media. Through December 31 at City Center in Montpelier. Info, 485-7770.

AXEL STOHLBERG Abstract paintings of Vermont landscapes. Through January 1 at Red Hen Bakery in Middlesex. Info, 244-7801.

'COASTLINES' A group show of paintings exploring the water's edge. Through January 15 at Center Gallery in White River Junction. Info, 295-8008.

DEBORAH ALDERMAN "Quilted Vermont," an exhibit of appliqué quilts by the Waterbury artist. Through January 30 at Governor's Office Gallery in Montpelier. Info, 828-0749.

GEORGE LAWRENCE Representational paintings in watercolors, oils, acrylics and pastels by the local artist. Through January 31 at Tunbridge Public Library in Tunbridge Village. Info, 889-9404.

'GIFT OF ART' The 2008 holiday gift bazaar features artful presents in a variety of media by local artists. Through December 26 at Chandler Gallery in Randolph.

'GIVE MORE HEART' More than 90 SPA artists showcase fine art and crafts in this annual holiday show on all three floors of the gallery. Through December 31 at Studio Place Arts in Barre. Info, 479-7069.

LILY HINRICHSEN "Field Notes," paintings and prints inspired by the energy of the earth. Through January 9 at Feick Arts Center, Green Mountain College, in Poultney. Info, 287-8926.

MIRANDA STEWART "Genius of Love and More Works," acrylic paintings on canvas. Through December 31 at The Cheshire Cat in Montpelier. Info, 223-1981.

LINDA DURKEE Her collage works and paintings share an exhibit with the clay sculptures of Liza Myers. Through January 8 at the Gallery-in-the-Field in Brandon.

'MODERN TREASURES FOR THE HOLIDAYS' The end-of-year show features an assortment of art, craft and designed objects in all media. Through January 31 at BigTown Gallery in Rochester. Info, 767-9670.

PAULA MCCULLOUGH "In Time for the Holidays," found-object sculptures including railroad tie clocks in a limited edition. Through December 31 at The Lazy Pear Gallery in Montpelier. Info, 223-7680.

ONGOING >> 44A

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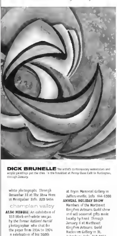

DICK BRUNELLE The artist's contemporary watercolors and acrylic paintings put the cheer in the breakfast at Penny Cluse Café in Burlington, through January.

ONGOING << 43A

PETER THOMASHOW "Wolfson Memorial Laboratory of Colour," whimsical installations featuring toys "from a parallel universe" and examining play and fantasy. Through March 31 at Main Street Museum in White River Junction. Info, 765-4274.

RADICAL JEWELRY MAKEOVER. U32 High School students exhibit reconstructed jewelry and **NICOLE KIRCHER**, "Scenes from the Far East," black-and-white photographs. Through December 31 at The Shoe Horn in Montpelier. Info, 223-5454.

champlain valley

ALDO MERUSI An exhibition of 150 black-and-white images by the former *Rutland Herald* photographer who shot for the paper from 1934 to 1974, in celebration of his 100th birthday. Through December 31 at Tuttle Building in Rutland. Info, 747-6121, ext. 2230.

CAL WILLIAMS & LYN ADAMS Nature-oriented photographs and jewelry in sterling and enamel, respectively. Through December 31 at Art on Main in Bristol. Info, 453-4032.

LIZA MYERS & LINDA DURKEE Works in clay, and paintings and collage, respectively. Through January 4 at Gallery in the Field in Brandon. Info, 247-0125.

SARAH WESSON "Perceptions," paintings. Through December 31 at WalkOver Gallery & Listening Room in Bristol. Info, 453-3188.

"THE GOLDEN CAGE" "Mexican Migrant Workers and Vermont Dairy Farmers," photographs by Caleb Kenna with interviews by Chris Urban. Through January 31 at Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury. Info, 388-2040.

northern

12TH ANNUAL SMALL PICTURE EXHIBITION More than 245 paintings in a small format, and multiple 2-D media, by 123 artists from around New England. Through December 28 at Bryan Memorial Gallery in Jeffersonville. Info, 644-5100.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY SHOW Members of the Northeast Kingdom Artisans Guild show and sell seasonal gifts made locally by hand. Through January 6 at Northeast Kingdom Artisans Guild Backroom Gallery in St. Johnsbury. Info, 748-0158.

DECEMBER FEATURED ARTISTS This month's artists in the spotlight are painters Henry Trask Kelly, Robert Anderson and Robert Fletcher; stained-glass artisan Karen Schaffier; and Gretchen and Tony Bittner, mixed media and wood furnishings. Through December 31 at Artist in Residence Cooperative Gallery in Enosburg Falls. Info, 933-6403.

HARALD AKSDAL Detailed landscapes in pen, ink and watercolor, as well as unframed prints by the Vermont artist. Through December 31 at Sterling College in Craftsbury Common. Info, 586-7711, ext. 124.

HOLIDAY SMALL PICTURE SHOW New small and miniature paintings and prints by gallery owner Elisabeth Wooden Fram and Mark Boedges, Gary Eckhart, Deborah Holmes, Rob O'Brien and others. Through December 31 at Vermont Fine Art Gallery in Stowe. Info, 253-9653.

'LANDSCAPES' Metaphorical, abstract and realistic works in various media by Ann Young, Kathy Stark, Elizabeth Nelson, Marie LaPre Grabon, Antelle Devereaux, Dorian McGowan and Elise Barksdale. Through December 28 at Maple Ridge Gallery in Newark. Info, 467-8400.

MEMBER ART SHOW & SALE Works by member artists are for sale in all three galleries. Through January 3 at Helen Day Art Center in Stowe. Info, 253-8358.

'NEW VISTAS: LANDSCAPE AND FABRIC' Handpainted silk kimonos by Roselle Abramowitz, paintings by Valerie Hird, handwoven landscapes by Vita Noler, quilted landscapes by Judith Reilly and fabric collages by Dianna Shellenberger. Through December 28 at Bryan Memorial Gallery in Jeffersonville. Info, 644-5100.

ROLAND ROCHETTE Twenty-four works on loan from friends, family and private collections showcase the work of the late, self-taught artist and retired farmer who died in 1986 at the age of 98. Through January 8 at GRACE in Hardwick. Info, 472-6857.

SMALL WORKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS Paintings, etchings, mixed media and more by Autumn Fahey, Nancy Morrow-Cribbs, Dean Parsons, Julia Ruth and Jennifer Ranz. Through December 24 at Haymaker Card & Gift Gallery in Morrisville. Info, 888-2309.

regional

BEN FRANK MOSS "Immanence and Revelation: The Art of Ben Frank Moss," more than 70 luminous landscapes and abstract still lifes by the longtime Dartmouth professor. Through January 4 at Hood Museum, Dartmouth College, in Hanover, N.H. Info, 603-646-2426.

'COASTLINE TO SKYLINE: THE PHILIP H. GREENE GIFT OF CALIFORNIA WATERCOLORS' An exhibition of works donated by a Hanover resident, of a group of California artists from the late 1920s through the 1950s, including Millard Sheets, Phil Dike, Rex Brandt and others. Through January 4 at Hood Museum, Dartmouth College, in Hanover, N.H. Info, 603-646-2426.

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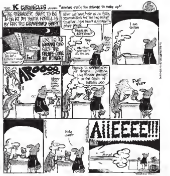
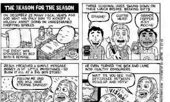

THE K CHRONICLES presents "another story too strange to make up"
BY KEITH KNIGHT
THE STRANGEST SHIFT TO BE ON AT MY YOUTH HOSTEL IS BY FAR THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT
LIKE THE OLD WHOMPUM SONG GOES THE FREAKS COME OUT AT NIGHT
Could you tell me a little bit about you Hostel?
What we have here is no frills accommodation for the low budget traveller. You share a room with other people.
People you don't know?
Yup.
Oh. That just won't do. You see
Maybe that one's for you
I am Satan
AROOOO.OOO
Holy water
Prepare to suffer! I'm a Negro dancing like Mister Peanut in the realm of Satan's den
FSST FSST
Holy water
AIIEEEE!!!
EXIT
STOP

NO EXIT © Andy Singer

OGG'S WORLD Doug Ogg

IdiotBOX

Matt Bors


THE REASON FOR THE SEASON
ON DECEMBER 25 MANY FISCAL YEARS AGO GOD SENT HIS ONLY SON TO KICKOFF A HOLIDAY ABOUT GOING ON UNRESTRAINED SHOPPING SPREES.
THE EVENT WAS SPONSORED BY BED BATH & BEYOND
THREE SEASONAL HIRES SWUNG DOWN ON THEIR LUNCH BREAKS, BEARING GIFTS
IPHONE!
GUITAR HERO!
GRANDE PEPPER MINT MOCHA!
JESUS PREACHED A SIMPLE MESSAGE: MONEY IS OF LITTLE IMPORTANCE – SO BLOW IT ALL AT A BIG BOX STORE!
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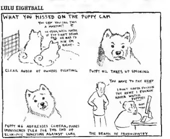
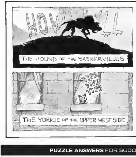

WHAT YOU MISSED ON THE PUPPY CAM
YOU CALL THIS A MARTINI?
OH YEAH, WELL MAYBE IF YOU DIDN'T DRINK TOO MUCH OR WAS I'D MIX 'EM RIGHT–
CLEAR AUDIO OF OWNERS FIGHTING
PUPPY #2 TAKES UP SMOKING
PUPPY #6 ADDRESSES CAMERA, MAKES IMPASSIONED PLEA FOR THE END OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA
YOU HAVE TO PAY RENT
I DON'T HAFTA FUCKIN PAY RENT I FUCKIN HAFTA WATCH PUPPIES
THE DEATH OF PRODUCTIVITY

bliss

BY HARRY BLISS


HOWWLL
THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES
YIPE YIPE YIPE
THE YORKIE OF THE UPPER WEST SIDE

	7			2				5
	5	1	3				5	
3					4	7		
	2		8				7	
		5		1		2		4
4					3	5		
		5		9				1
2			1		5		4	
	5				5	6		

sudoku

BY LINDA TRISTLE

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers one to nine

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ = Moderate ★★ = Challenging ★★★ = Hoo, boy!

PUZZLE ANSWERS FOR SUDOKU AND CROSSWORD ON PAGE 32B

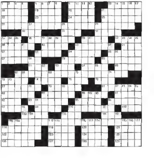
SEVEN DAYS crossword

ACROSS

1 Singer Horne
6 Gusto
9 Complain
13 Helium and hydrogen
18 Israeli airline
19 Cultural grp.
20 "Picnic" playwright
21 Actress Blakley
22 Strauss' "— sprach Zarathustra"
23 "Cherish a sin —"
24 Lassie's father
25 Diva Jessye
26 Start of a remark by Milton Berle
30 Iron —
31 Center of gravity?
32 — Pea (Popeye's kid)
35 Health resort
36 Swore off
40 "Little Man —" ('91 film)
42 Mark
45 Polished the Pontiac
48 R&B's Johnny
49 Hearth
51 Latin I word
52 Help in a heist
53 Baseball's Felipe
54 Hiawatha's transport
55 Very cold
57 King's quarters
58 Brilliant bird
60 Common antiseptic
61 Prune
63 Shepard or Snead
64 Point in the past
66 Particle
67 Middle of remark
72 Writer Paretsky
74 Mama start
75 Brenda or Brandon
76 Gob
77 Speaker
79 Singer Neville
81 "Barry —" ('75 film)
85 Defamation
87 Shoelace part
88 Chunky
91 French airport
92 "Unaccustomed — am"
93 Storage sites
95 Rash remedy
96 Steep rocks
97 Curl up with Cather
99 Ho Chi —
100 Mobile home?
102 Dogpatch's Daisy —
103 Famous fellow?
105 Scrape by with "out"
106 Stout relative
108 End of remark
118 "Peter Pan" extra
119 Comic Sahl
120 Seaport or Canal
121 Circus sound
122 Put on
123 Disoriented
124 Run in neutral
125 — Taft Benson
126 Stereo component
127 Trawler gear
128 Tumbled
129 TV's "— the Press"

DOWN

1 Page
2 Ramses or Wilbur
3 "Boss Tweed's" nemesis
4 Hilo hello
5 Croatian capital
6 Slaughter or Cabell
7 Lobe probe?
8 "Cheerful"
9 Ached for
10 In reserve
11 Taj town
12 — -farewell
13 Lawn ornament
14 Comes to terms
15 Big ring
16 Jack of "Rio Lobo"
17 — Bernardino CA
21 Response
27 "Heavens to Betsy!"
28 Montand or Tanguy
29 Cosmetician Lauder
33 Trade
34 Sunscreen ingredient
35 Lipinski leap
37 Happiness
38 Actress Hagen
39 — Tin Tin
40 Leg cell
41 Destination
43 Rock salt
44 — acid
45 Transmit by bytes
47 LAX letters
49 Cul-de- —
50 Fresh tonic
53 Merit
54 Lerner & Loewe musical
55 Dutch export
58 Radio control unit
59 — -jongg
60 Perfect examples
62 — oar
63 Furtiveness
65 MIT group
67 Sheik spot
68 Destiny
69 Siegfried's [illegible]
70 Itch
71 Strive
72 — please
73 Greek E's
78 Vintage
80 Musical syllables
82 Freshman's C word
83 Wee serving
84 "Eugene Onegin" character
86 AMEX rival
87 Simian
88 Menu phrase
89 Tennis stroke
90 — culpa
94 Hammed up "Hamlet"
95 Pianist Templeton
96 Baby bovine
98 Mar
100 Powerful punches
101 Maestro Lorin
104 39.37 inches
105 Snowy bird
107 — Zimbalist Jr.
108 In — (archaeology term)
109 Mediterranean port
110 "No Way Out" actress
111 Scenter of your face?
112 Like
113 Bars
114 Swiss sharpshooter
115 Seep
116 Seldom seen
117 "Confound it!"
118 Oregon hrs.



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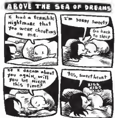
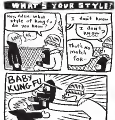
ABOVE THE SEA OF DREAMS


I had a terrible nightmare that you were cheating on me.
I'm sorry sweety
Go back to sleep
If I dream about you again, will you be nicer this time?
Yes, sweetheart
KISS KISS KISS
DECEMBER 3, 2008

WHAT'S YOUR STYLE?



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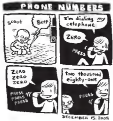

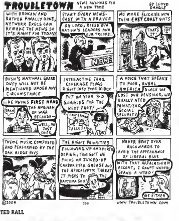
TROUBLETOWN
NEWS ANCHORS FOR A NEW TIME
BY LLOYD DANGLE
WITH BROKAW AND RATHER FINALLY GONE, NETWORK EXECS CAN REMAKE THE NEWS SO IT'S RIGHT FOR TODAY!
BYE BYE
START EVERY NEWSCAST WITH A PRAYER
OH LORD, BLESS OUR NATION'S LEADERS AND OUR TROOPS
NEWS
NO MORE SLICKIES WITH THEIR EAST COAST SUITS
THAT'S IT!
TOOL DEPT →
BUSH'S NATIONAL GUARD DUTY WILL NOT BE MENTIONED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE
HE KNOWS FIRST HAND THE ANGUISH OF WAR BECAUSE—
IRAN
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FAST & FURIOUS IN FALLUJAH
A VOICE THAT SPEAKS TO POOR, RURAL AMERICA
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FOLLOWING UP ON SPORTS DOPING, TONIGHT WE FOCUS ON JUICED-UP CARBURETOR GREASE AND THE APOCALYPTIC THREAT IT POSES TO THE DAYTONA 500!
NEVER BENT OVER BACKWARDS TO AVOID THE APPEARANCE OF LIBERAL BIAS
WITH THAT APPALACHIAN ACCENT, I CAN'T UNDERSTAND A WORD!
ME EITHER
©2004
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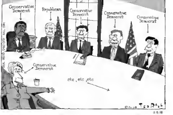
TED RALL



RED MEAT
festive flotilla of yule logs
from the secret files of Max Cannon
How'd you like the big plate of holiday cookies I baked for you, Milkman Dan?
They were delicious, Karen. Thanks again.
I just thought you might want to know that I used dog poo instead of chocolate chips.
You did, eh? Well I certainly enjoyed them, nevertheless.
What??? It doesn't bother you even the least bit?

free will astrology

BY ROB BREZSNY

december 25-31

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Most people spend their entire lives immersed in three modes of awareness: waking, sleeping and dreaming. But there are many other modes that have been explored down through the ages by the pioneers of consciousness. Some of them aren't very interesting to me — like those sought out by people who use cocaine or methamphetamines, for instance — while others are states I aspire to inhabit, such as lucid dreaming, deep meditation and a visceral perception of the fact that love is the fundamental law of the universe. I bring this line of thought to your attention, Aries, because I believe that in 2009 you will have excellent opportunities to open up your mind to levels of consciousness that are beyond the basic three. No drugs are necessary to take advantage — only a driving curiosity to tune in to realities that are currently outside of your field of vision.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): In the original Constitution of the United States, adopted in 1787, each black slave living in America was counted as three-fifths of a person. Eighty-seven years later, the Thirteenth Amendment conferred the missing two-fifths on all who had up until then been regarded as partial humans. I predict that a comparable milestone will come for you in 2009, Taurus. Where in your life have you been marginalized or perpetually unfinished? What fragmented role have you been compelled to play? What situation has prevented you from being all you can be? You will have an excellent chance of completing the circuit in the coming months.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): According to the novelist John Gardner, there are just two kinds of stories in literature: you go on a journey, or a stranger arrives in your world. According to my analysis of your destiny in 2009, you will reap rich rewards by including both of those plotlines in your life story. So let the brainstorming begin, Gemini. What's the best journey you could choose for yourself — a journey that will educate, challenge and delight you? And what can you do to attract the best kinds of strangers into your world — strangers who will educate, challenge, and delight you?

CANCER (June 21-July 22): To get ready for 2009, I invite you to fantasize in depth about the fertile alliances that might be possible for you to cultivate in the coming months. These lively, inspiring bonds could be with people you haven't met yet. They could be with acquaintances you barely know but would like to know better. And they could be with friends, collaborators and loved ones you're already intimate with but want to become even closer to. The coming year has the potential to bring revolutionary advances in the quality and intensity of your relationships, so it will be smart for you to work hard on making that happen.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "What do I long for?" should be a core question for you — always, of course, but especially in 2009. Are you adventurous enough to look beyond the status symbols your ego is attached to and the transitory wishes that constantly flit through your imagination? If so, you'll prime yourself to establish a root connection with your soul's deepest yearnings. And when you're in daily touch with those primal motivators, the obstacles in your life will seem less overwhelming, the lies you tell yourself will dissolve, and you will consistently have crisp intuitions about what your next move must be. Life may not necessarily be a breeze, but it'll be profoundly magical.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): When I predict that liberation will be one of your primary tasks in 2009, Virgo, I'm not speaking about it in the usual way. The definition I'm working with is one that the writer David Foster Wallace articulated: "The really important kind of freedom involves attention and awareness and discipline, and being able truly to care about other people and to sacrifice for them over and over in myriad petty, unsexy ways every day." I hope you'll be moved to add other nuances and flourishes to that approach as you experiment with it liberally in the coming months.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "I saw the angel in the marble and I carved until I set him free." That was Michelangelo talking about how he approached his work as a sculptor. He didn't build the statue, in other words, but got rid of the unnecessary stuff that was surrounding it. I suggest that you try this approach in 2009. You have the potential to create a great thing — maybe even two great things — by chiseling away the extraneous material that's obscuring their unique beauty.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In 2009, don't just tune in to your hunches now and then. Be more diligent and intense than that. Check in with your intuition at least three times a day on all 365 days of the year. Be precise in the questions you pose it. Gather its clues craftily. Have fun as you joke and play with it. Conscientiously experiment with the suggestions it provides. This will be the year you can establish a steady, reliable connection with your inner voice. Be devout in your dedication to the cult of your intuition!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Want to supercharge your luck in 2009? Get yourself some vivid new superstitions. The more outrageous they are, the more likely it is they'll generate lots of crazy sweet karma. You might want to draw inspiration from pro football player John Henderson, for instance, who swears he can trick destiny into working in his favor if his trainer smacks him in the face before each game. Former hockey player Bruce Gardiner might also be a worthy role model. To rev up his good fortune, he always shoved his hockey stick into a toilet prior to skating out onto the ice. JUST KIDDING, Sagittarius! In fact, I hope you will make 2009 your least superstitious year ever. Let's drink a toast to lucid logic, impeccable objectivity, and cool, clean reason. Add some compassionate sarcasm and loving satire into the mix and you will generate lots of crazy sweet karma.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The most expensive bat mitzvah in history took place at New York's Rainbow Room in November 2005. David Brooks, a billionaire defense contractor, spent $10 million on his daughter's rite of passage. Among the stars he hired to perform at the bash were Aerosmith, Tom Petty, Nelly and 50 Cent. Promise me, Capricorn, that if you get wealthy in the coming year, you won't blow your money on ridiculous "luxuries" like that. Here's a secret: The more high-minded you are in cultivating your dreams, the greater the likelihood is that you'll get richer quicker.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Imagine you're driving down a very wide highway that's 50 lanes across even though there are no lines dividing one lane from another. Speed limit signs aren't posted and some vehicles are zipping along in zigzag paths at over 100 mph while others crawl along like old lady turtles. Now and then you've got to weave your way through a congested area where many on-ramps all feed into the road simultaneously. You haven't seen an off-ramp yet, and you're not sure where to get off anyway. I figure, Aquarius, that 2008 had some resemblance to the scenario I just described. Luckily, I predict that no later than your birthday you will find an off-ramp and exit onto an uncluttered backroad with great scenery.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "How do you slay the dragon?" journalist Bill Moyers asked mythologist Joseph Campbell in an interview. By "dragon," he was referring to the dangerous beast that symbolizes the most unripe and uncontrollable part of each of our lives. In reply to Moyers, Campbell didn't suggest that you become a master warrior, nor did he recommend that you cultivate high levels of sleek, savage anger. "Follow your bliss," he said simply. Personally, I don't know if that's enough to slay the dragon — I'm inclined to believe that you also have to take some defensive measures — but it's definitely worth an extended experiment. Would you consider trying that in 2009?

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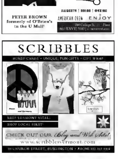
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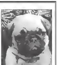

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At the Movies with Kisonak and Harrison, 2008

RICK KISONAK What a difference a year — an election year — can make, huh? Last December we remarked on the torrent of films that had been made in reaction to the war in Iraq and Bush's misguided policies in general. With the exception of Oliver Stone's bafflingly pointless *W.*, this past year saw barely a celluloid reference to the lame duck or his lame legacy.

What filled that void? Well, for the most part, Nazis, superheroes, Judd Apatow wannabes and Catherine Keener. The indie icon starred in no fewer than four pictures (*Hamlet 2*, *What Just Happened?*, *Genova* and *Synecdoche, New York*), in addition to the upcoming Robert Downey Jr. drama *The Soloist*, now set for spring release. Remember how Philip Seymour Hoffman seemed to be everywhere this time last year? Next to Keener, he's looking practically agoraphobic.

MARGOT HARRISON Well, some critics seem to think Batman in *The Dark Knight* was supposed to be G.W. Bush, but they're the misguided ones, in my opinion. Now, I haven't seen many of the year's fall Oscar contenders because they haven't hit Vermont, so for me this looks like the year when summer blockbusters went dark. First America thrilled to a sweet animation that evoked all our fears about wrecking the planet and smothering in our own junk (*WALL-E*). Then, barely a week later, everyone lined up for the most anti-heroic superhero movie ever made. (I'm still talking about *The Dark Knight*, but *Hancock* could also contend for the title.)

What a downer, huh? Well, on the bright side, there were some unusually substantial roles for women, in films such as *Happy-Go-Lucky* and *Rachel Getting Married*. There were way too many superhero movies, but some of them were actually good. And lots of Catherine Keener is never a bad thing.

MOST STELLAR PERFORMANCE

RK: Philip Seymour Hoffman in *Synecdoche, New York*. He may have paced himself this year, but when he was in front of a camera, he was phenomenal. His portrait of a regional theater director who dreams of mounting a massive meta-production unlocking the meaning of life is as spellbinding as it is heartbreaking. He's also fabulous in *Doubt*, a film that isn't in the same league as *Synecdoche, New York* but, ironically, is more likely to wind up winning him awards.

MH: Go ahead and say it's because it was his last performance. But seriously, Heath Ledger. He chose to play the Joker not like your typical movie psycho or like Nicholson, but like a spaz who got mocked in junior high and grew up and figured out how to scare the shit out of the cool kids. It may have been over the top, but it'll be remembered.

MOST ANNOYING PERFORMANCE

RK: Nicolas Cage in *Bangkok Dangerous*. And I didn't even see this movie. I just continue to find the actor's anything-for-a-buck professional ethos appalling. Talent like his is a terrible thing to waste.

MH: Mark Wahlberg, twice over. We know Marky Mark can act — look at *Boogie Nights* or *The Departed*. But this year, the trees in *The Happening* and the snow flurries in *Max Payne* were more expressive than he was.

BEST COMEDY

RK: *Pineapple Express*. Seth Rogen — fast approaching national treasure status — and writing partner Evan Goldberg teamed up with producer Judd Apatow and indie director David Gordon Green (*George Washington*) to engineer an entirely new strain of motion picture: the stoner action comedy. In a year of half-baked laughers, this one was totally baked. And that was a good thing.

MH: *Happy-Go-Lucky*. Mike Leigh's tale of a manic young woman who's also a fairly smart cookie got laughs from real feeling characters, not ridiculous situations. However, I should note that I laughed harder at the last half hour of *Southland Tales* than anything else all year.

WORST COMEDY

RK: I'm torn, because I thought *Tropic Thunder* truly blew, but I have to go with *Get Smart*. Steve Carell hits a career low here in the role of CONTROL operative Maxwell Smart, inexplicably retooled by the picture's creators. The whole point of the original series — the brainchild of no lesser talents than Mel Brooks and Buck Henry — was to offer a bumbling, Clouseau-like parody of James Bond. In this update, the agent was reconceived as a methodical, highly efficient asset who every now and then resurrects one of the show's famous catchphrases. What's the point of a Maxwell Smart who doesn't bumble?

MH: *Fool's Gold*. I think it was supposed to be funny. But the setup of an uptight chick bickering with a slobby guy till they both break down and kiss has passed its sell-by date. Also, Matthew McConaughey's pecs, while impressive, cannot act.

BIGGEST LETDOWN

RK: Clint Eastwood showed no sign of slowing down in 2008, just of screwing up. He directed two films: *Changeling* was a so-so period suspense-fest; *Gran Torino*, on the other hand, is a sloppily made collection of cornball clichés about an aging racist (Eastwood) who befriends a family of Hmong that moves in next door. The writing is sophomoric, the cast is

>> 52A

<< 51A

made up largely of nonactors who should have remained that way, and, worst of all, Clint himself sings the film's title song, sounding like Tom Waits with a mouthful of razor blades.

MH: Most of the high-concept horror films this year, including *Cloverfield*, *Diary of the Dead*, *The Happening* and *The X Files: I Want to Believe*. The first two proved that fake-documentary films can be as stagy and unbelievable as any other kind. The last two were just mistakes. At least we had two chilling, psychologically acute scare flicks from Europe: *The Orphanage* and *Let the Right One In*.

BIGGEST SURPRISE

RK: *Roman Polanski: Wanted and Desired*. Like most people, I expect, I assumed I knew the story behind the legendary director's 1977 arrest and subsequent exile. All that changed when I watched Marina Zenovich's remarkable and revelatory documentary on the subject. No excuses are made for the crime he committed. At the same time, his treatment by this country's justice system, it turns out, was nothing short of criminal.

MH: That Indiana Jones ended up with a woman roughly his own age.

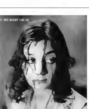
BEST VAMPIRE UNDER VOTING AGE

RK: If you see just one movie this year about a bullied Swedish albino who convinces a 12-year-old vampire to go steady with him, you owe it to yourself to make it *Let the Right One In*. It is mournfully beautiful, brilliantly original and masterfully directed. Lina Leandersson is unforgettable as the supernatural tween.

MH: Lina Leandersson again. The scene where she shows us what happens when a vampire enters a home uninvited is enough by itself to erase decades of tongue-in-cheek bloodsucker flicks. However, I must give Robert Pattinson of *Twilight* some points for ruthlessly making fun of his character in the press (and, some would say, on screen).

BEST IMITATION OF A JUDD APATOW MOVIE

RK: In a year rife with wannabes, writer-director David Wain (*The Ten*) revealed to the world that he too had come down with a case of Apatow Envy. Like many a 2008 comedy, *Role Models* appropriated shamelessly from the Apatow canon. Raunch was mixed with romance. Potty-mouthed dialogue was interspersed with feel-good moments. Faces familiar from films such as *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*, *Knocked Up* and *Superbad* — including McLovin himself — were prominently on display. Apatow addicts looking for a fix of movie methadone will find Wain's to be higher grade stuff than other imitations, however. It had way more Apatow regulars. And it was a ton funnier.



LET THE RIGHT ONE IN

MH: *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* (which Apatow did produce). Writer-star Jason Segel is a talented alternative to the verging-on-ubiquitous Seth Rogen. He deserves more screen time, though preferably not in his birthday suit. Russell Brand delivered one of the comic performances of the year as a vain but even-tempered British pop star.

BEVERLY HILLS CHIHUAHUA

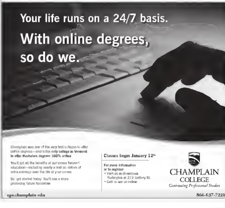
MOST INEXPLICABLE HIT

RK: *Beverly Hills Chihuahua* comes to mind. A talking-dog movie from Raja Gosnell, the director of *Scooby-Doo* and *Scooby-Doo 2*. Now here's a filmmaker who likes to stretch. The thing was number one for two weeks straight and is closing in on $100 million at the domestic box office. There has to be some way to blame George W. Bush for that.

MH: Judging by *Chihuahua* and last year's *Alvin and the Chipmunks*, I'm guessing most domestic ticket sales these days are driven by the tastes of kids under 5. However, my pick is a flick that hit it bigger with the mom demographic. *Mamma Mia!* Singing, dancing and sparkles are all fine, but not when they come with a shopworn story and lame pop hits. My female friends and relations will just have to agree to disagree with me on this.

MOST INEXPLICABLE FLOP

RK: Critics savaged *The Happening*, but I found the latest from M. Night Shyamalan exquisitely directed, convincingly acted, hauntingly scored, imaginatively scripted and creepy as all holy hell. Many reviewers seemed to relish the opportunity to pronounce the filmmaker's career officially dead on its arrival. I'm not certain I understand the phenomenon. Are we so overloaded with truly innovative and talented directors we feel the



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population needs to be brought under control the way hunting season thins the deer herd? Even if this were a disappointing work, it wouldn't have merited the lacerations it underwent, and the thing is, it wasn't a disappointment, not even remotely.

MH: *Blindness*. OK, this depressing tale of a worldwide epidemic was never hit material. But given that we're all petrified of pandemic flu, maybe we should have paid more attention to its cautionary tale of the chaos that results when civil society stops working.

BEST OMEN OF THE IMPENDING DOWNFALL OF CIVILIZATION

RK: Rumor has it Disney is already working on a sequel to *Beverly Hills Chihuahua*.

MH: In *Sex and the City*, a man proves his love by building a woman a walk-in closet for her shoes. Yes, if I remember right, it was *just* for her shoes. And people wonder about this credit crisis.

fundamental story elements lifted from the series. Please. Say never again.

MH: Though *Jumper* doesn't have a sequel yet, I'm going to go with it preemptively, given that its greedy, tween-pandering makers chose to value a sequel setup over an actual ending.

BEST DOCUMENTARY

RK: *Man on Wire*. British-born filmmaker James Marsh appropriated the conventions of a heist caper to tell the story of French aerialist Philippe Petit and his August 7, 1974, high-wire walk between the towers of the World Trade Center. Chronicling the conception, planning and commission of "the artistic crime of the century," it's *Houdini* meets *Ocean's Eleven*, *Twelve* and *Thirteen* all rolled into one.

MH: *Trouble the Water*. Though only part of the film is a firsthand record of what Hurricane Katrina did to New Orleans, the rest is a compelling character study of the young woman who held the camcorder when all hell was breaking loose around her.

WORST HAIRPIECE

RK: Nicolas Cage again. *Bangkok Dangerous* had him under the most unfortunate rug he's sported since *Con Air*. It was like a cross between a greasy mop and roadkill.

MH: The taffy-colored towhead Robert Downey Jr. revealed when his Australian character in *Tropic Thunder* stopped pretending to be African American. It came with a nifty Russell Crowe impersonation, though.

BEST ARGUMENT FOR THE BANNING OF SEQUELS

RK: *Quantum of Solace*. This was the first sequel in the 46-year history of Bond films. With any luck it will be the last. Two big problems. First: 007 trades in his license to kill for a prerogative to mope. Who needs a brooding, angst-ridden Bond? Second: the whole incomprehensible mess plays like a second-rate *Bourne* rip-off — with action scenes quoted almost verbatim and

MOST TOOTHLESS SATIRE OF THE MOVIE INDUSTRY

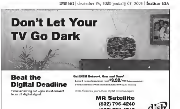
RK: Are you sitting down? Actors are self-absorbed. Agents are motivated by self-interest. Hollywood producers and studio heads are more interested in making money than great art. These are among the insider bombshells dropped in *What Just Happened?* What's happened to Robert DeNiro's career may be more to the point.

MH: *Tropic Thunder* wasn't so much toothless as it was a gigantic prosthetic set of choppers that were further enhanced with CGI. In other words, despite a few biting hits, it was too much like the over-masticated action movies it was trying to satirize.

BEST GUILTY PLEASURE

RK: *Cloverfield*. I'm a monster man from way back, and this is the most blood-draining thing I've come across in years. The brainchild of "Lost" creator

>> 55A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at the movies

<< 53A

J J Abrams the picture is so stripped down so thoroughly devoid of traditional devices and tropes (e g. scientists speculating as to the creature's origin American military might triumphing over an evil invader) that there's nothing left but the experience of trying to survive an apocalyptic attack with the viewer thrust into the middle of the mayhem *Blair Witch*-style. It's only 84 minutes long but packs several times the primordial punch of bigger longer star studded productions such as *Godzilla* and *War of the Worlds*. I doubt there's a filmmaker working today who can match Abrams' knack for infusing timeworn forms with new life. With "Lost," he reimagined the desert island drama. In *Cloverfield* the monster movie was reborn.

MH Well, I can't agree. But I enjoyed *Twilight*, so I have no high ground to stand on. Lush cinematography, clever direction and fun performances made this abstinence-promoting vampire romance into a dreamy meditation on teen delirium.

WORST PICTURE

RK Did it get worse this year than *Speed Racer*? I'm sure there were crappier movies but I doubt there were crappier movies made by filmmakers as accomplished as *Matrix* creators Larry and Andy Wachowski. In bringing the '60s *anime* series to the big screen the brothers weren't content to peddle sound and fury signifying nothing; they reveled in a digital orgy of meaningless sound fury and computer-generated Day-Glo color. This may be the least special special-effects movie ever made.

MH OK, Rick, I know you liked it, But I'm going to have to go with *The Happening*. Its premise has promise and the trailer showed off Tak Fujimoto's exquisite cinematography. But I found the film laughably written, poorly staged and woodenly acted. I don't mind that the villains belonged to the vegetable kingdom. I do mind that Zooey Deschanel's vacant stare makes it seem like she's wondering *Can trees really be scary?* And I mind that Mark Wahlberg plays a biology teacher who believes "acts of nature" can't be explained, period. No wonder American kids are falling behind in science.

BEST PICTURE

RK *Frost/Nixon*, *Revolutionary Road*, *The Reader*, *Doubt*, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button* and *Milk* are all fine films to greater or lesser degrees but I didn't see anything in 2008 that could hold a candle to *Synecdoche New York*. And I stand by the two predictions I made in my review. First, you won't come across a motion picture that's better, more brilliant or more ambitious this year. And second, It won't win the Oscar (or any other major award) for Best Picture. In one sense as I said this is a shame. In another it's probably as it should be. Can you imagine a world where everybody is on the same wavelength as Charlie Kaufman?

MH I don't like superheroes. Or caped crime fighters. The much-praised *Batman Begins* left me cold, as did Tim Burton's version. And yet for some reason I find myself still convinced *The Dark Knight* is the best movie I've seen this year. Nietzsche wrote about the uncanny power that Wagner's dark, often turgid operas held over the Germans of his day. I never understood the phenomenon till I saw this film. It's not the smartest one I've seen. But it's superb mythmaking and reminds us of the danger of letting fear determine our choice of leaders, at a time when many of us are scared a lot.

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A PIECE OF THE ACTION

Time once again for the version of our game in which we freeze an action packed frame from a well-known film and extract a pivotal puzzle shaped piece from the picture. Your job, as always, is to fill in the visual blank and name the movie anyway.

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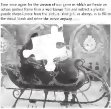

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THE URGENCY
Tuesday, December 30
Higher Ground P.09B

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FIRST RUN

Thursday, January 1, at Memorial Auditorium P.18B

<food>

BITING COMMENTS
Feedback from 7 Nights. P.03B

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People's Palates: 2008 Edition

7 Nights readers weigh in on where to eat

BY SUZANNE PODHAIZER

Everyone's a food critic on the 7 Nights website. In our online dining guide, readers can leave "comment cards" touting their favorite restaurants or warning others away from places they dislike. While many of the comments are short and (sometimes) sweet, we prefer it when folks wax poetic about their favorite places. The more juicy details readers can soak up about an eatery's culinary offerings and its service, the better. If the scallops were scrumptious or the ribs rip-roarin' good, we all wanna know about it.

Luckily, a handful of 7 Nights users really like to dish, and we think it's time to share the love. *Seven Days* has scoured an entire year's worth of comments to help tip people off to dining spots that someone, somewhere swooned over in 2008. Self-appointed taste makers are indicated by their chosen screen names. Bear in mind, we can't — and don't — corroborate their dining experiences, and we've only minimally corrected their grammar and spelling. Want to disagree with us, or review your own favorite local spot? Visit www.sevennightsvt.com and tell us all about it.

ALCHEMIST PUB & BREWERY ★★★★

23 South Main Street, Waterbury 244-4120

"Pintpounder" says, "We drove all the way from Boston on a monthly basis just to come here and it has never disappointed. Last visit was Columbus Day weekend and we had a great leaf peeping/pub-crawling time. My wife had a panini and fries (the garlic mayo rocks!!), and I had a roast chicken dish. Both were excellent — all local ingredients were a HUGE plus. As good as the food is, we are coming for the beer, hands down the best in New England. I could drink Holy Cow IPA all day long — and I have. We are always treated like locals, and were shocked when our waitress remembered our names.

It is easy to see why this place is always so crowded. Get there early if you don't want to wait, but the wait isn't bad at all when you're passing time with a pint of Heady Topper."

BLACK SHEEP BISTRO ★★★★

253 Main Street, Vergennes 877-9991

"RealVermonter" says: "As a student who works full time, days off are precious. My girlfriend and I decided to make the most of a perfect sunny day. After a long stint at our favorite swimming hole, we were ravenous for perfect food and cocktails. We tried our luck at the Black Sheep Bistro, and were rewarded with a most memorable experience. We were seated on the patio, which was gorgeous, but after a long day in the sun we needed some shade; the hostess, who was clearly very busy, was extremely accommodating in finding us a different table. I ordered a dirty martini, which was before my eyes before I had chosen my meal. It was perfect (I AM picky about my cocktails) and when I asked the server to thank the bartender, she informed me that the waitstaff mixes their own drinks. I couldn't believe it! So fast! It was so busy! Our meal was spectacular, and the server even took the liberty of sending complimentary spring rolls simply because she heard us discussing them, yet we had decided on other apps. My steak was perfect, dessert was divine, and I will be back as often as I can. I wish I could give a 6-star rating! Thank you, Black Sheep."

CARIBBEAN BUFFET ★★★

12 North Winooski Avenue, Burlington 865-4514

"BigEasy" says, "I had decided to stop one evening to check out the buffet here. The only other person was the owner, Patrick [Brown]. He had just set up the buffet table. Once I tried the food, I was sold. Best collard greens I've had since I moved back north from New Orleans. I could have cleaned up the whole pan. The chicken was

>> 04B

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people's palates

<< 04B

extremely tender and flavorful, if not overly spicy. The rice covered with a few spoonfuls of the chicken drippings was very flavorful. The green beans were crisp tender and perfect. The ambience is limited. It's sort of a storefront with a few tables. However Patrick made me very welcome. He even fixed a ginger drink that was great for cleaning the palate. It's one of those places you'd drive by a hundred times wondering 'Should I give it a try?' My answer: a resounding yes. It ain't pretty but it sure is some excellent down-home cookin' at a reasonable price."

CLAIRE'S RESTAURANT AND BAR ★★★★
41 Main Street, Hardwick, 472-7053

"CycleStu" says: "While it was a long trip to get there from Burlington, the four in our party were glad we made the trek. Neat-looking place although a bit on the noisy side. Wonderful bread to start, four perfect entrées, the cassoulet being out of this world. When asked about the contents of the meatballs and if the trout was boned, the answers came back in a flash and in detail. Portion sizes ranged from big to enormous, but all were finished with no take home. An interesting wine selection (I used to sell wine and this is not a run-of-the-mill list) served in what looked like jelly jars, and a draft beer list which seemed to match the dinner menu (looks like some thought was used). Only complaint, and it is really a quibble, was with the apple and blueberry crisp. I like the apples soft and close to applesauce, and these were firm. Also, you can never put enough blueberries in the dish and they didn't. The oatmeal topping was wonderful as was the homemade ice cream. Coffee was excellent, and we sampled four kinds between us. All in all, this was a wonderful dining experience, and the price was well within the range of reasonable."

PHOTO: JEB WALLACE-BRODEUR

CUCINA ANTICA ★★★
43 Shelburne Shopping Park Shelburne, 985 1117

"Las" says: "Arrived before the dinner crowd and waitresses tripleteamed us, lots of attention that didn't stop even as the place filled up. We ordered an individual pizza and a meatball sub on toasted garlic bread. The meal started with great French bread and a seasoned olive oil for dipping. The tomato sauce was from fresh (hand-crushed) tomatoes with great seasonings, the color, taste and texture was fantastic. Even though the meatball was well-seasoned, light in texture, and the fresh baguette toasted with garlic butter, it was the sauce that made the meal. The individual pizza was a generous 6-inch pizza with a wheat crust (you can have lamb as a topping!). I asked the waitress if they made the sauce fresh; she got the chef/owner William [Wisell] to come out and talk to me, very pleasant experience... With one beer and a soda the meal was just under $20. Table was small but chairs comfortable, décor was nice, only downside was take-out orders walk through the dining area. It is really nice to take a family here: the kids can have a small pizza, sub or sandwich, and parents can have a fine Greek or Italian dinner."

ESPRESSO BUENO ★★★★★
136 North Main Street, Barre 479-0896

"Hubert Cumberdale" says: "I had quite possibly the best coffee drink of my life here. They make their mochas with ganache, some of which never melts and stays on the bottom of your gigantic mug so that when your drink is nearly gone you get a mouthful of ganache-y goodness. Mine was flavored with pumpkin syrup, which even the people working there thought was weird, but it turned out to be a surprisingly delicious taste. I don't go to Barre too often, but when I do I'm always tempted to stop here."

EURO RESTAURANT ★★★★
1 Towne Marketplace, Essex Junction, 878-9299

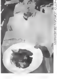
"Professor D" says: "The food is scrumptious and absolutely mouth watering. My family and I go there often and were just there... It was a busy night but we have learned to take our time eating, and the staff was joyous and very helpful. This is not your average night at a chain food restaurant where you receive oversized water glasses, bland salad dressing and perhaps food that has been frozen for long. My family and I had a selection of meals from veal marsala to lamb chops. The salads are always crisp and fresh, and their homemade dressing is just amazing! The owner is very kind and welcoming. And the charming staff is always helpful and interested in each diner. When compared to the traditional European experience in Europe, this is as close as it can get in the States... Don't forget to ask to see their new homemade desserts! The presentation and the taste is mouth watering. Enjoy."

FOOD 88 ★★★★
28 Main Street, Winooski, 654-8888

"Glenn&Elly" says: "We were very pleasantly surprised. The décor is minimalist, and utilizes the brick from the structure itself, with funky tables and art... The music was progressive jazz, which definitely went well with the decor. We had Thai spring rolls and a calamari for an appetizer, and both were well done, although different than one might expect as the spring rolls were not in fried skins as usual, and the calamari was not in small rings... My wife's mom had a green curry with shrimp, asparagus and other veggies, along with rice, and she loved it. My wife had Pad Thai, which she likes to order at most Thai restaurants so that she can compare, and she thought it was great, with a lot of chicken and shrimp. I had the Teriyaki Salmon, and had expected it to be a small portion, as it was only $8.50. When it came, it was a good-sized piece of salmon accompanied by some steamed squash, carrots and broccoli, which were cooked perfectly... Teriyaki sauce was good... If you find yourself in that area, try FOOD 88. You'll probably add it to your favorites list."

HEN OF THE WOOD AT THE GRIST MILL ★★★★★
92 Stowe Street, Waterbury 244-7300

"SarahB" says: "I had no idea this restaurant existed, and it surprised me when we pulled in the dirt parking lot and walked down the stairs: what a cozy, peaceful space lay in front of us. The sound of the jazz being played and the waterfall splashing outside played with my senses. I am originally from RI, so I had to order the RI style calamari. They were seasoned perfectly, ex



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tremely tender, and had the right amount of spices to give a little kick. Then came the chicken. I usually don't order chicken, but it was sooo tempting, especially because it came with chanterelle mushrooms. I have never tasted something so delicious. The sauce was delightful, the mushrooms were woodsy, and the chicken melted in my mouth . . . To top off the meal, the honey creme brûlée was the sweetest touch to end the evening. The service was impeccable, the food was mouth-watering, and the room was magical."

ON THE RISE BAKERY ★★★★

Corner of Bridge and Esplanade, Richmond, 434-7787

"LBMatown" says: "I recently discovered OTR bakery and am IN LOVE!!! I go as often as possible and am always recommending it to friends as THE BEST breakfast spot. The food is all amazing and completely homemade (they make their own tortillas, English muffins, bagels . . . everything!) and wood-fired. The ambience is wholesome and family friendly as there are always many cute children roaming the floor [smiley face]. I cannot say it enough, it is the best weekend brunch spot in the greater Burlington area."

OPEN ARMS CAFE

52 Harbor Road, Shelburne, 985-9844 ★★★★★

"Gada de la Burlington" says: "I checked out this new place this morning on my way to work and was quite impressed. It is so cute inside . . . sunny and comfortable. It kind of feels like you are in someone's house, and I mean that in a positive way. I had an egg sandwich with veggie sausage, tomato, spinach and cheese on a sprouted whole grain English muffin . . . I was pleasantly surprised by how good it was. It was well toasted, which is key . . . Veggie sausages can be pretty hit or miss, but this one was tasty. Their coffee is all French pressed and it is dark and delicious. They have lots of yummy-sounding fresh-squeezed juices and smoothies which I didn't try but [that] I am looking forward to. My only complaints . . . they don't take credit cards and are closed on Sundays, which is only a complaint because it seems like a great spot to sit and read the *Sunday Times* while drinking good coffee and eating great food."

ROZZI'S LAKESHORE TAVERN ★★★

1022 West Lakeshore Drive, Colchester, 863-2342

"MFackstrom" says: "When my husband and I first moved to Vermont, we were looking at a place to possibly live in Malletts Bay. After we looked at it, there was this little ol' place called Rozzi's that we decided to have a beer at. Little did we know this would soon be our regular go-to spot! We were always greeted by name. The locals are fun to talk to; they always have something homemade to eat for a happy hour. The eggs Benedict is AWESOME! Becky is the best bartender, good sports watching, and now we're back in Minnesota and miss our tavern so much. We even named our cat Rozzi."

SADIE KATZ DELICATESSEN

★★★★★
189 Bank Street, Burlington, 864-5308

M. THOMSEN

"Tva" says, "I've eaten at Sadie Katz a couple of times now and I love this place. The first couple of times I wanted a beef tongue sandwich, but they were out so I opted for a turkey club. Consistently magnificent. They are huge, the bacon is crispy, the veggies fresh, and the turkey perfect. When I finally did get to try the beef tongue, I was not disappointed: very tender, rich and just sublime. I was almost in tears from happiness (sorry, Grandma, but this is better than your beef tongue). I also love that they offer a wonderful potato salad with the sandwiches. The only possible downside is the prices, a bit steep, but certainly worth it when you want to splurge on some darn fine deli food."

SAPA'S COFFEE AND TEA ★★★★★

9 Center Street, Burlington, 318-4888

"Seson" says: "From the first time I saw Sapa's, I knew it was different and just right. The staff is the friendliest I have found in downtown Burlington, and their hospitality not only reflects traits of their culture but their willingness to share their joy with you. The selection of teas is fantastic, and served in such an individual way that it is always a different experience even if you always order the same kind of tea. The coffee is strong . . . but its flavor is heavenly . . . look for that condensed milk touch! The pastries and sweets are delicious and just right to enjoy with coffee. Ambiance and atmosphere is unique and so relaxing you forget you are in Burlington and feels [like] you are in another country. For me this place is Zen in disguise . . ."

THAI HOUSE ★★★★

359 Lake Road, St. Albans, 524-0999

"VTMom" says, "The staff is incredibly warm and friendly. They're happy to help you with spice-level modifications and the likes if needed. Bring your own beer or wine. They do have a nice selection of non-alcoholic drinks including fruit juices, coconut juice, teas, coffees and sodas. In the appetizers, the chicken satay and calamari are fabulous. The calamari is cut into strips rather than rings and dipped in a very light tempura batter. Drunken Noodles, Pad Thai and even the Pad Si Ew are great. The curries are spicy but incredibly rich and satisfying. Their fried rice dishes are all great. I've never enjoyed duck before, but the Honeyed Duck is exquisite. There is a dish with lime leaves rated one star for heat, and I would give it two stars. Definitely made my eyes water. Also, the lime leaves, even though they are sliced thin and incorporated in the dish, are a little fibrous to chew. The red snapper is a little tangy but very good. Scallops, Shrimp and Asparagus is one of the best dishes on the menu. My husband adores their Garlic Salmon. If you make it to dessert, the fried ice cream is sinful. It's a scoop of vanilla ice cream wrapped in pound cake, battered in tempura batter and fried until golden. They top it with mint leaves, whipped cream and fudge sauce. The wonton-wrapped, fried bananas are unique but very tasty."

TOMMY'S CITY GRILL ★★★

580 Shelburne Road, South Burlington, 652-0111

"NBrownVT" says: "Tommy's restaurant is by far my favorite place to eat in Burlington. The place really does have character, very unique! It is kind of like a diner atmosphere, not the most comfortable seating, but hey, is the food great. They serve breakfast, Mexican and great sandwiches (clam sandwich is awesome) all day long. It's real authentic stuff at real affordable prices. Not the place to go if you are in a fine dining mood, but great for any other time. Don't pass this place up, trust me, you won't be disappointed. I generally go there once a week . . ."

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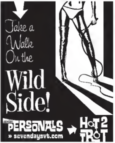
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HOT 2 TROT

<food>

Bubbleology 101

A wine maven explains what's so special about Champagne

JENNIFER SWIATEK

BY MICHAEL BEWELL

When the countdown to midnight begins on New Year's Eve, there will be party hats on people's heads and a few key questions on their minds: Will the economy pick up in 2009? Is there somebody smoochable in the vicinity? Where's the Champagne?

The host, on the other hand, may be gritting her teeth at the thought of all the $50 bottles she sprung for. Or she could be pouring bargain basement bubbly stuff and hoping her guests don't notice it lacks a proud pedigree. After all, not everything that sparkles is from France. Or tastes delightful.

Cruising the aisles of the wine department, holiday shoppers will quickly realize that only a fraction of the bottles contain "real" Champagne. So what on Earth do all those other green glass bulbs hold? Some say "sparkling wine," others say "Prosecco," "Sekt" or "Cava." Without trying a sip, let alone a whole bottle, it's enough to make one's head spin.

We aim to clear up some of the confusion with a brief crash course in the facts about fizz.

BUBBLY TERMINOLOGY

Most bottle labels indicate how sweet or dry the wine will be. Here are some terms to look for:

- **Natural:** Bone dry, no sugar added.
- **Brut.** The term means "rough" in French, connoting a raw material that hasn't been tampered with. Brut champagnes are quite dry, with less than 1.5 percent sugar. Many "great" champagnes are brut.
- **Extra Sec/Extra Dry:** Sec means dry, indicating that these will have a touch of sweetness, but no more.
- **Sec:** Getting sweeter. This one will contain between 1.7 and 3.5 percent sugar by volume.
- **Demi Sec:** Half dry or half sweet, depending on your perspective. May be utilized as a dessert wine.
- **Doux:** The sweetest of all, with more than 5 percent sugar. A dessert wine.

HISTORY

Like many culinary innovations, effervescent wine was more a lucky accident than an invention

RECIPES

VERMONT KIR ROYALE
From The Beverage Warehouse in Winooski

1 part Cassis (black-currant wine) from Boyden Valley Winery in Cambridge, VT
4 parts of your favorite sparkling wine: Prosecco or Champagne

Combine the liquids in a fluted wine glass. Add more Cassis if desired.

BUBBLY VERMONTER
From Saxton's River Distillery in Saxtons River

1 1/2 oz. Sapling maple liqueur
4 oz. brut Champagne
1/4 teaspoon cherry juice
Juice from one quarter of a lime

Mix ingredients in a shaker with ice. Shake gently. Strain into a champagne flute.

Carbonation results when wine goes in bottles before fermentation is complete. Nonetheless, a Benedictine monk named Dom Perignon — for whom the world-renowned Moet & Chandon Champagne house named one of its most famous fizzes — often gets the credit for "inventing" Champagne.

"Despite what most people think, Dom Perignon didn't discover Champagne," dishes Bill O'Connor, the state wine manager for Baker Distributing. "He discovered how to preserve it. How to tie down the corks and how to develop good production and blending principles."

Why tie down the corks? Before Perignon came on the scene, many bottles were prone to premature cork expulsion and many actually exploded in the wine cellar. Hence carbonation in wine was initially considered a bad thing. The bubbly stuff was so unstable that it was sometimes called the "devil's wine," even though much of it originated in monasteries.

Perignon was originally tasked with figuring out what caused the extra fermentation and eliminating it. Instead, he embraced it, revolutionizing the industry to the delight of many.

"I'm a Champagne-o-phile," says O'Connor, who can wax eloquent on his favored drink. "I love the beauty that comes out of Champagne. First the smell, then the taste, then the prickle which translates the taste to the palate. Its flavor combines with the smell. Then you get to the finish [i.e., the aftertaste]. You taste the wonderful fruit and the toasty yeast."

MANUFACTURE

Although one can make drinks fizz in many ways — for instance, by simply injecting carbon dioxide — Champagne producers use a complex set of techniques known as the methode Champenoise. First, the grapes are pressed and the juice fermented in large barrels. During fermentation, yeast converts sugar into alcohol and carbon dioxide is released as a byproduct. The wine is bottled with additional yeast and sugar to create a controlled second fermentation that lasts between one and a half and three years, depending on the quality of the grapes.

Like many culinary innovations, effervescent wine was more a lucky accident than an invention.

French law insists that only three grape varietals can be used to make Champagne: a white grape, Chardonnay, and two red grapes, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier. Champagne made solely with Chardonnay is called "Blanc de Blancs" (white of whites). When red or black grapes go in the press, it's called "Blanc de Noirs" (white of blacks).

Historically, the Pinot Meunier grape — named for a "miller's wife" because the leaves appear to be dusted with flour — has been considered inferior to the other two types, but it has grown in popularity thanks to its heartiness and bold flavors.

In France, when all the grapes used to make a wine come from a single year's harvest, the bottle bears that year — or "vintage" — marked on its label. Grapes from different years can also be blended to create a "nonvintage" (or undated) version. Most producers of sparkling wine outside of Champagne follow the French lead.

OTHER STYLES

Though many drinkers use "Champagne" as shorthand for any bubbly wine, French law reserves the word for beverages made solely from grapes grown in the Champagne region using the traditional methodology. Wine makers in other countries have to come up with their own terminology. The Spanish call their light citrus-y stuff "Cava." In Italy there's straw-colored "Prosecco," which comes in frizzante (lightly sparkling) or spumante (fully sparkling) styles. Germans and Austrians make "Sekt," which is a bit fruitier — tasting of apples and pears — and usually sweeter than wines from their neighbors to the south.

In the U.S., we keep it simple by calling bubbly "sparkling wine." American versions tend to be fruitier and bold. According to O'Connor, our homegrown sparklers are "forward, like the American personality."

SELECTION

Champagne and sparkling wines can feature big or small bubbles, each with their distinctive effects on the mouth feel. Wine producers have secret variations in their production methods that make each sparkling wine distinctive. Fruity flavors range from orchard offerings such as apples and pears, to tropical lemon and tangerine. "Tart," "creamy" and "dry" are other words used to describe flavor. Some wines are yeasty (like biscuit dough), some floral, and some have a nutty flavor. Because there are so many options, the best way for novices to find what they're looking for is to ask a trusted wine seller.

At the Beverage Warehouse in Winooski, owners Jennifer Swatek and George Bergin are used to offering recommendations, especially to customers curious about the less celebrated sparklers. "More and more people are coming in and saying, 'We are on a budget this year,'" says Swatek. She adds that people who used to go for $40 bottles of Champagne are currently more likely to opt for a couple of bottles of Prosecco, which sells for $15 on average. "Right now Prosecco is the strongest selling category in the store," she admits.

Bergin says his number-one seller is Val d'Oca, an extra-dry Prosecco that goes for $15.99. "It doesn't have the roughness of a Brut," he says. His other under-$20 recommendation is Roger Goulart Cava. "Forget that it's Cava," he advises. "It's champagne from Spain."

Another way to get bang for your buck is to sweeten the deal with mixers. "People are really digging the $7 to $10 champagnes to make punch or cocktails with," says Swatek. Recipes abound on the Internet. Bergin mentions that those who don't want to risk the DIY approach can purchase a pre-made version called Mimosa — a blood-orange and Prosecco blend — from a company called Canella. "The color is a little frightening. [But] it's just tasty," Bergin insists. "They have done all the work for you."

What are some other ways to make spirits buoyant this year without splurging on Dom or Veuve Clicquot? Based on my own 16 years' experience in the food and beverage industry, I can say one of my favorite sparkling varieties is the Roederer Estate Anderson Valley Brut nonvintage ($25.99). This wine is crisp, with elegant flavors of spice combined with pear and hazelnut. My other recommendation is the Gruet Brut nonvintage ($16.99) made outside Albuquerque, New Mexico. It tastes of green apples and grapefruit, with an ultra-fine bubble.

There are plenty of great tastes to celebrate, even on a budget. Now go get your bubble on.

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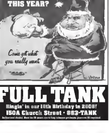

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ERIC ASIMOV,
THE NEW YORK TIMES
1/26/2005

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TUE
30

URGENT! :: Vermont is hardly a bastion of major-label music. So when native sons or daughters sign a pact with a heavyweight imprint, it's kind of a big deal. Such is the case with radio-ready pop-rock outfit **The Urgency** who will release their debut album on Island/Def Jam in early 2009. Three of the group's five members claim Vermont roots, including dynamic front man Tyler Gurwicz, a Champlain Valley Union High School grad. This Tuesday, the band returns for a hometown show at the Higher Ground Showcase Lounge with Boston's **Kid:Nap:Kin** and local indie-rock favorites **In Memory of Plato**.

Club listings & spotlights are written by **Dan Bolles**. Spotlights are at the discretion of the editor.

Send listings by Friday at noon including info phone number to **clubs@sevendaysvt.com.**

Find past album reviews and future club dates online at **www.sevendaysvt.com/music.**

sound bites

BY DAN BOLLES

Got music news? Email Dan Bolles: dan@sevendaysvt.com
7D.blogs.com/solidstate for more music news & views.

OUR LADY, FULL OF GRACE

For Vermont music fans, there's not much left to say about **Grace Potter and the Nocturnals**. As the song goes, "If you don't know me by now . . ." While the rest of the world is only now discovering our boggy rawk and bar-nary band of tomorrow... at this point, local folks either love 'em or they don't. So the band's upcoming three-night New Year's Eve stint at the Higher Ground Ballroom isn't exactly newsworthy 'round these parts. Fans have likely had the dates circled on their calendars since last year's run. Everyone else, not so much.

But hang on a second. While Potterheads might know what to expect from a GPN show, as was the case last year, the draw for those on the fence about attending this time around might just be the opening acts.

Sunday night, New York City-based experimental indie folk outfit **Phonograph** warm up the crowd. Thus far, the band has been largely an underground sensation. But recently they've started to gain national attention from music mags such as *Paste Magazine* and *Uncut*. Prevailing critical "wisdom" paints them as something of a **Tom Petty**-meets-**Lou Reed**-at-**Wilco**'s-*Summerteeth* recording-sessions hybrid. And that's actually not too far off the mark. Fans of any of the three aforementioned acts will likely find something to dig here.

The following evening might make for the most interesting clash of styles — especially from a people-watching standpoint — as experimental indie collective **Akron/Family** take the stage. While the band's heady psych pop forays may prove too much for the average middle-aged, Subaru-driving GPN fan, the band has an absolutely rabid fan base amongst the local hipster set — many of whom also drive Subarus. And yes, I realize I'm painting in very broad strokes here. And no, the generalizations probably aren't fair. Still, Akron/Family are about as deliciously cutting-edge as it gets in "indie" music these days. Just ask local experimental provocateur **Greg Davis**, who frequently moonlights with the group.

And finally, we have the ball droppin' Main Event, New Year's Eve. This is gist, GPN will be joined by **Bill Mullins**' "surf noir" chameleons **Barbacoa** — a personal favorite of yours truly, dating back to the late 1990s. What, exactly is surf-noir, you ask. Tough to say, really. Picture **Dick Dale** dropping acid with **David Lynch** and you're warm. Or maybe **Ennio Morricone** composing for **Link Wray**. On acid.

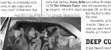
PHOTO COURTESY OF ZANDE McDAVID

PHONOGRAPH

Also of New Year's note is that GPN will once again perform music from a "classic" film — in costume, no less. Last year, they reimagined **Richard Linklater's** *Dazed and Confused*. This year, band manager **Cody Burr** will only say that they guarantee a "Royal" New Year. I'm thinking *The Princess Diaries 2: A Royal Engagement*. But I've been wrong before.

WHAT ARE *YOU* DOING NEW YEAR'S, NEW YEAR'S EVE?

Of course, our little Gracie isn't the only game in town — or the state — on NYE. Pretty much every joint has a little something cooking on the big night. And maybe because the economy is in shambles and downtown acts are easier to come by, most of the better options are local ones.

First up, we have **Dead Sessions** at Club Metronome. If you're unfamiliar, this is an ongoing "session" focusing on the "Dead." Any questions? Essentially a local all-star band featuring members of **Turkey Brazilian Mafia** and a cast of (roughly) thousands, you'd be hard pressed to find a more accomplished group of young musicians. If it's a **Grateful Dead** tribute you seek, accept no substitutes.

Downstairs, Nectar's has **The Dave Grippo Funk Band**. Another local all-star outfit, this is pretty much Dave Grippo. Playing funk. With a band. Man, this column is writing itself! Seriously, though, these guys are a local institution, and rightly so.

Just up the street, 242 Main has what might amount to the most rockin' New Year's this side of **Dick Clark** with — get comfortable — **River City Rebels, Dux, Behavior of Moths, War Elephants, New & Very Welcome, Forever They Said, Young Denver, Jakool Trio, Pandas Eat Pandas, Phantoms** and **Even the Score**. Now that's a lineup.

Down the road apiece in Montpelier, Langdon Street Café hosts indie-folk darlings **Rusty Belle** and fellow Northampton psych-jazz outfit **The Primate Fiasco**, who will apparently join forces for an apocalyptic ... psych jazz jam. OK, so it's not strictly local. But the Golden Dome may never be the same.

Meanwhile, at Charlie O's ... does it matter? Best dive ever, remember. In case you need another reason, though, they've got rockers **Generous Thieves**.

DEEP CUTS

If you haven't heard Lendway's *The Low Red End* yet, I highly recommend it — see 7D Top 5 Albums of 2008 list (p. 17B). To hear what all the fuss is about, tune in to "Off the Deep End with **Mike Wilkide**" on Champ 101.3 FM this Sunday at 8 p.m. The boys will make an in-studio appearance to play cuts from the album and talk about their upcoming show at Red Square the following night. Local rockers **Zuzu's Petals** will stop by the studio at 9 p.m. in advance of their January 3 (2009) gig at Nectar's.

Word is that Wilkide has been working plenty of local music into his weekly non-formatted show, so it might not be a bad idea to start tuning in anyway.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SEAN DEMPSEY

LENDWAY

BEST WISHES

After compiling the holiday/New Year's wishes of local musicians and other scene folks (p. 14B), I got to thinking about some of my own. So, if you'll indulge me — c'mon, it's my last column of the year — here are a few things I'm hoping for in 2009.

- That people will stop using Wikipedia as a source reference.
- That someone will open a rock club in the old Battery Street Jeans building.
- New albums from **Cave Bees, Rough Francis** and **Swale**.
- A new term for "indie" rock released on major labels. "Crap," perhaps?
- A new drug.
- More writers for *Solid State*. And no, I won't pay you.
- A unified local music-blog community that feeds off each other's readership and fosters civil dialogues.
- That Papa John's closes and the space becomes a gay bar again. But that they keep the name.
- That the long-rumored expansion of Radio Bean actually happens. And that puritanical ... people realize that there are far worse alcohol-related problems in town than a few sound hipsters. Besides, wouldn't all those skinny jeans allow room for a larger max capacity, anyway?
- That Waterfront Video moves back to the *Waterfront*.
- That **Dan Bolles** records and releases an album, which will then be reviewed by Dan Bolles. Harshly. Though this may cause problems with the space-time continuum.
- That musicians who can't handle or aren't interested in criticism stop sending their music to critics. That's what publicity agents are for.
- That everyone has a happy, healthy 2009. ⑦

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FRI.26

burlington area

1/2 LOUNGE: Black Dimensions In House with DJ Craig Mitchell (house), 10 p.m., Free.
BACKSTAGE PUB: Karaoke with Steve, 9 p.m., Free.
CHAMPLAIN LANES FAMILY FUN CENTER: U Be the Star Karaoke with Michael in Lounge, 9 p.m., Free.
CLUB METRONOME: No Diggity: Return to the '90s ('90s dance party), 9 p.m., Free.
FRANNY O'S: '80s Night with Party Pete', 10 p.m., Free.
JP'S PUB: Dave Harrison's Starstruck Karaoke, 10 p.m., Free.
LINCOLN INN TAVERN: The Allmen, Sweet & Low Down (rock), 7 p.m., Free.
MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE: Kate Paradise Trio (jazz), 8 p.m., Free.
THE MONKEY HOUSE: THC Dance Party (DJ), 9 p.m., $5.
NECTAR'S: Andy Schlatter (singer-songwriter), 5 p.m., Free. Seth Yacovone (solo acoustic blues), 7 p.m., Free. Greg Izor (blues), 10 p.m., $5.
NIGHTCRAWLERS: Evenkeel (rock), 8 p.m., Free.
RADIO BEAN: Live Music TBA, 8 p.m., Free.
RASPUTIN'S: Top Hat Danceteria (DJ), 10 p.m., $3.
RED SQUARE: Me & You with Brett Hughes and Marie Claire (cosmo-rural), 5 p.m., Free. Lowell Thompson Band (alt-country), 8 p.m., $3. Nastee (hip-hop), 11:30 p.m., $3.
RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB: Supersounds DJ, 10 p.m., Free.
SECOND FLOOR: Voodoo with DJ Kabbis J (hip hop), 9 p.m., $3/10.

central

CHARLIE O'S: The Brick & Gypsy Highway (rock), 10 p.m., Free.
GUSTO'S: Last Kid Picked (rock), 10 p.m., Free.
LANGDON STREET CAFÉ: Honky Tonk Happy Hour with Mark Legrand (country), 6 p.m., Donations. Solid Gold Sing-A-Long with Jay Ekis (rock), 8:30 p.m., Donations.
PURPLE MOON PUB: Starline Rhythm Boys (rockabilly), 9 p.m., Free.
SLIDE BROOK LODGE & TAVERN: Small Axe (rock), 9 p.m., Free.

champlain valley

ON THE RISE BAKERY: Open Mike, 7:30 p.m., Free.
TWO BROTHERS TAVERN: Tulipwide ('70s & '80s dance party), 10 p.m., $3.

northern

BAYSIDE PAVILION: Live Music, 9 p.m., Free.
JP'S PUB: Live Music, 9:30 p.m., $3.
MATTERHORN: Funk Collection (funk), 9 p.m., $5.
RUSTY NAIL: Lotus Entertainment Presents DJ Russell (mash up), 10 p.m., $5.

regional

MONOPOLE: Out the House (rock), 10 p.m., Free.

SAT.27

burlington area

242 MAIN: Unrestrained, Brick, Petition, Bad Rabbit, Gelen (hardcore), 7 p.m., $7. AA.
AVENUE BISTRO: Jared Johnson & Friends (jazz), 6 p.m., Free.
BACKSTAGE PUB: Run for Cover (rock), 9 p.m., Free.
CLUB METRONOME: Retronome ('80s dance party), 10 p.m., $5.
FRANNY O'S: Balance DJ & Karaoke, 9 p.m., Free.
GREEN ROOM: DJs Nation & Sharkat (electro), 10 p.m., Free.
HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE LOUNGE: The Paul Green School of Rock Allstars, The Minor Key with Buddy Dubay (rock), 7 p.m., $12/14. AA.
JP'S PUB: Dave Harrison's Starstruck Karaoke, 10 p.m., Free.
LINCOLN INN TAVERN: Phil Abair Band (rock), 9 p.m., Free.
MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE: Paul & Tracie Cassarino, Jeff Wheel (acoustic), 8 p.m., Free.
THE MONKEY HOUSE: Tick Tick Presents A Stereo Warmup (eclectic DJs), 9 p.m., $5.
NECTAR'S: Roots of Creation (reggae-jam), 10 p.m., $5/10. 18+
NIGHTCRAWLERS: Bobby Reed Project (blues), 9 p.m., Free.
PARIMA ACOUSTIC LOUNGE: Zach DuPont, Marie Claire (singer-songwriters), 8 p.m., $5.
RADIO BEAN: tooth ache. (indie-folk), 8 p.m., Free. Slammos!, The Lazy Songwriter, Arthur Adams (indie), 10 p.m., Free.
RASPUTIN'S: Mansion (DJ), 10 p.m., $3.
RED SQUARE: Conscious Roots (reggae-jam), 8 p.m., $3. DJ A-Dog (hip-hop), 11:30 p.m., $3.
RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB: Kalla Band (rock), 10 p.m., Free.
SECOND FLOOR: Déjà Vu Ladies Night (DJ), 9 p.m., $3/10.

central

BLACK DOOR BAR & BISTRO: Jazz X (jazz), 9:30 p.m., $3-5.
CHARLIE O'S: Greg Izor (blues), 10 p.m., Free.
GUSTO'S: Evenkeel (rock), 10 p.m., Free.
LANGDON STREET CAFÉ: Sam Grace & The Suits (rock), 8 p.m., Donations.

SAT.27 >> 12B

REAL NUDE
FRI 12/26 ME & YOU 6PM
LOWELL THOMPSON 9PM
DJ NASTEE 12
SAT 12/27 CONSCIOUS ROOTS 8PM
DJ A-DOG 10-2
MON 12/29 LENDWAY 9PM
TUE 12/30 BASHMENT WITH DEMUS & SUPER K 9PM
WED 12/31 DJ CRES NEW YEAR'S EVE BONANZA 9PM
FRI 1/2 ME & YOU 6PM
SPECIAL SURPRISE! 9PM
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MIKE GORDON
DEC 30
JOHNNY WINTER
JAN 9
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MIKE GORDON
THE URGENCY
HEAVEN & HELL COSTUME BALL
POOF! & DJ PRECIOUS
WU-TANG CLAN
FEAT. GZA, GHOSTFACE KILLAH, RZA, U-GOD, RAEKWON, MASTA KILLA, INSPECTAH DECK & CAPPADONNA
JOHNNY WINTER
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FIRST FRIDAY
FRAMING HANLEY
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JANUARY THAW BEACH PARTY
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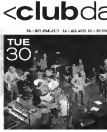

LASER TAG :: There's nothing so dubiously time-honored in the annals of rock history as the side project. While most such moonlighting is (rightly) met with skepticism, every now and then offshoots wholly emerge from the shadow of their more popular parent outfits. Such is the case with **Blues & Lasers**, led by Grace Potter and the Nocturnals' lead guitarist Scott Tournet. Trading in downright filthy, psychedelic blues rock, the band — which includes fellow Nocturnals Bryan Dondero and Matt Burr, as well as Turkey Bouillon Mafia's Benny Yurco — has won over GPN critics and admirers alike. Catch their New Year's Eve Eve show at Club Metronome this Tuesday with local rowdy rock outfit Jésus Vanacho.

SAT 27 << 11B

PURPLE MOON PUB Seth Yacovone (blues) 6 p.m. Free.
SLIDE BROOK LODGE & TAVERN Grace Sklar & Friends (funk jazz) 6 p.m. Free.

champlain valley

CITY LIMITS Dance Party with DJ Earl (DJ) 5 p.m., Free.
ON THE RISE BAKERY Live Music 7:30 p.m. Donations.
TWO BROTHERS TAVERN Pale Moon (jam) 10 p.m., $3

northern

PICASSO: Karaoke Championship with John Wilson & Danger Dave. 9:30 p.m. Free.
RUSTY NAIL The Palms of Gorton (funk) 10 p.m. $5

regional

MONOPOLE Out the Haase (rock) 10 p.m. Free
TABU CAFÉ AND NIGHTCLUB All Night Dance Party with DJ Toxic (DJ) 5 p.m. Free.

SUN.28

burlington area

1/2 LOUNGE YouTube Night 10 p.m. Free.
242 MAIN This Condition, For Crying Out Loud, Set the Scene, Practice (hardcore) 7 p.m. $7 AA.
BACKSTAGE PUB Karaoke with Pete 9 p.m. Free
CLUB METRONOME Family Night Open Jam, 10 p.m. Free (18+)
FRANNY O'S Selance DJ & Karaoke 9 p.m. Free.
HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM Grace Potter & the Nocturnals Phonograph (rock) 8 p.m. $25/30. AA.
LINCOLN INN TAVERN Pine Street Jazz, 9 p.m. Free.
NECTAR'S Mi Yard Reggae Night with Big Dog & Demus (reggae) 10 p.m. Free.

NIGHTCRAWLERS Karaoke with Steve LeClair 7 p.m. Free.
RADIO BEAN Greg Isar (blues) 7 p.m. Free.
RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB Trinity (Irish) 5 p.m. Free.

central

LANGDON STREET CAFÉ Winter Concert Series. Jas Davidian & Kate Paradise (jazz) 3 p.m. Donations. Holiday Jazz Night, 9 p.m. Donations.

northern

THE HUB PIZZERIA & PUB Jazz on Tap (jazz) 7:30 p.m. Free.
RUSTY NAIL The Peachbottoms. An Allman Brothers Experience (rock) 10 p.m. $5

MON.29

burlington area

1/2 LOUNGE Heal In Sessions with Briandaye & Reverence (reggae) 10 p.m. Free.
HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM Grace Potter & the Nocturnals, Akron/Family (rock) 8 p.m. $25/30. AA
LINCOLN INN TAVERN Carol Ann Jones (singer-songwriter) 7 p.m. Free
RADIO BEAN Open Mike 8 p.m. Free.
RED SQUARE Lendway (indie-rock) 8 p.m. Free
SKINNY PANCAKE The Smittens (indie pop) 9 p.m. Donations.

central

LANGDON STREET CAFÉ Open Mike. 7 p.m. Free.
SLIDE BROOK LODGE & TAVERN DJ Crazyfoot (hip-hop) 9 p.m. Free

TUE.30

burlington area

CLUB METRONOME Blues & Lasers, Jésus Vanacho (rock) 9 p.m., $7/12. 18+

HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM Mike Gordon (rock) 9 p.m. $25/27 AA.
HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE LOUNGE The Urgency, Kid.Nap.Kin, In Memory of Pluto (indie-rock) 7:30 p.m. $8/10. AA.
LINCOLN INN TAVERN Mad Mountain Scramblers (bluegrass) 7 p.m. Free.
PARIMA ACOUSTIC LOUNGE Island Night with DJ Skinny T (DJ) 5 p.m. Free. Poets Jam with Kevin Stanger 9:30 p.m., Free.
RADIO BEAN Honky Tonk Sessions (honky tonk) 10 p.m. $3.
RED SQUARE World Beatmeat with Demus & Super K (reggae) 8 p.m. Free.

central

CHARLIE O'S Karaoke 10 p.m. Free.
LANGDON STREET CAFÉ X Mens Fest (eclectic) 8 p.m. Donations.
MAIN STREET GRILL AND BAR Tom & Jalna (trumpet & Spanish guitar) 7 p.m. Free.
STONECUTTERS BREWHOUSE Open Mike 7 p.m. Free.

champlain valley

CITY LIMITS Shoulder Night 5 p.m. Free
TWO BROTHERS TAVERN Monday Nite Karaoke, 9 p.m.

northern

PICASSO: Karaoke 9 p.m. Free.

WED.31

burlington area

242 MAIN First Night Fundraiser with River City Rebels, Dax, Behemoth of Moths, War Elephants: New & Very Welcome and Novel (rock) 5 p.m. $11. AA.
BACKSTAGE PUB Evenkeel (rock) 9 p.m. Free.
BANANA WINDS CAFÉ & PUB In Kahootz (rock) 8 p.m. Free.
CLUB METRONOME Dead Sessions (Grateful Dead tribute) 9 p.m. $3

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FRANNY O'S The Holmeheads (rock) 10 p.m., Free.

HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM Grace Potter & the Nocturnals, Gaiharas (rock) 9 p.m. $45/48 AA

HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE LOUNGE Heaven & Hell Costume Ball with Poof! A Drag Cabaret & DJ Precious (house) 7 p.m. $30/40/46 18+

LINCOLN INN TAVERN The Boomflowers, Sweet & Lowdown (rock) 7 p.m. Free.

MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE Tracie & Paul Cassarino with Jeff Wheel (acoustic) 8 p.m. Free.

THE MONKEY HOUSE Red Hot Juba (cosmic Americana) 9 p.m. $12/14

NECTAR'S Dave Grippo Funk Band 9 p.m. $27

NIGHTCRAWLERS General Lee (rock) 8 p.m. Free.

PARIMA MAIN STAGE New Year's Eve Bash 11 p.m. NA

RADIO BEAN Ensemble V (jazz) 7 p.m. Free. Irish Sessions, 9 p.m. Free

RED SQUARE DJ Cre8 (hip-hop) 11 p.m. Free.

RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB Dan Parks & Ena Blanca (rock) 10 p.m. Free

SECOND FLOOR Superstar Karaoke with Robbie J 10 p.m. Free/$5 18+

SKINNY PANCAKE A Moment in Time (funk jam) 9 p.m. Donations.

central

BLACK DOOR BAR & BISTRO Dave Keller (blues) 10 p.m. $3-5.

CHARLIE O'S: Generous Thieves (rock) 10 p.m., Free.

LANGDON STREET CAFÉ Rusty Belle, The Primate Fiasco (truffle-folk, brass band) 9 p.m. $10

champlain valley

CITY LIMITS DJ Earl (Top 40) 9 p.m., Free

ON THE RISE BAKERY The Andric Severance Quintet (jazz) 8 p.m. Donations

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN The Jesters (rock) 10 p.m. $3

northern

BEE'S KNEES Open Mike with Ellen & Jay 7 p.m. Free. The Tames Brothers (blues) 9:30 p.m. Free.

RUSTY NAIL Last Kid Picked (rock) 10 p.m. NA.

regional

MONOPOLE Shameless Strangers (rock) 10 p.m. Free.

OLIVE RIDLEY'S Glass Onion, Craig Hurwitz (rock) 8 p.m. NA.

THU.01

burlington area

CLUB METRONOME Battle for Burlington: Drunken Go Metal (hip-hop) 10 p.m. Free/$5 18+

FRANNY O'S Balance DJ & Karaoke 9 p.m. Free.

NIGHTCRAWLERS Karaoke with Steve LeClair 7 p.m. Free

THU 01 >> 14B

venues411

1/8 Lounge, [illegible] St., Burlington, 865-0018
242 Main, [illegible], 878-2366
30 Main Street Pub, 30 Main St., Winooski, 655-0072
Akes' Place, 134 Church St., Burlington, 864-8111.
The Alley Coffee House, 13 [illegible] St., Milton, 893-1571.
American Flatbread, 115 St. Paul St., Burlington, 861-2999.
Angel's Riverside Café & Pub, 106 Gove St., Montpelier, 229-2895.
Avenue Bistro, 178 North Ave., Burlington, 862-9999.
Backstage Pub, 60 Pearl St., Essex Jct., 878-5494.
Backstreet, 10 Hudson St., St. Albans, 527-2697.
Banana Winds Café & Pub, 1 Market Pl., Essex Jct., 879-0752.
Barre Opera House, 6 North Main St., Barre, 476-8188.
Basin Harbor Club, 4800 Basin Harbor Rd., Vergennes, 1-800-622-4000.
Battery Park, Burlington, 865-7166.
Bayside Pavilion, 13 Lake Shore Rd., St. Albans, 524-0909.
The Bearded Frog, 5247 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, 985-9877.
Bee's Knees, 82 Lower Main St., Morrisville, 888-7889.
Big Fatty's BBQ, 55 Main St., Burlington, 864-5013.
Big Moose Pub at the Fire & Ice Restaurant, 28 Seymour St., Middlebury, 388-7166.
Big Picture Theater & Café, 48 Carroll Rd., Waitsfield, 496-8994.
Black Bear Tavern & Grill, 205 Hastings Hill, St. Johnsbury, 748-4878.
Black Door Bar & Bistro, 44 Main St., Montpelier, 223-7070.
The Bobcat Café, 5 Main St., Bristol, 453-3311.
Bolton Valley Resort, 4302 Bolton Access Rd., Bolton Valley, 434-3444.
[illegible], 98 Portland St., Morrisville, 888-3288.
Borders Books & Music, 29 Church St., Burlington, 865-2711.
Breakwater Café, 1 King St., Burlington, 658-6276.
The Brewski, Rt. 108, Jeffersonville, 644-6366.
B.U. Emporium, 48 Porters Point Rd., Colchester, 858-4292.
Bundy Center for the Arts, Rt. 100, Waitsfield, 496-4781.
[illegible] Lounge, [illegible] Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, 985-2200.
Burlington City Hall Auditorium, 149 Church St., Burlington, 865-7188.
Capitol Grounds, 45 State St., Montpelier, 223-7800.
Carol's Hungry Mind Café, 24 Merchants' Row, Middlebury, 388-0101.
Champlain Lanes Family Fun Center, 2630 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, 985-2576.
Charlemont Restaurant, Rt. 15, Morrisville, 888-4242.
Charlie B's, [illegible] Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-[illegible]
Charlie O's, 70 Main St., Montpelier, 223-6820.
Chow! Bella, 28 N. Main St., St. Albans, 524-1405.
Cider House BBQ & Pub, 1675 Rt. 2, Waterbury, 244-8400.
City Limits, 14 Greene St., Vergennes, 877-6919.
Coffee Hound, 97 Roosevelt Hwy, Colchester, 651-0943.
Club Metronome, 188 Main St., Burlington, 865-4563.
Cuzzin's Nightclub, 230 North Main St., Barre, 479-4344.
Davis Center, UVM, Burlington, 656-4530.
Dobrá Tea, 80 Church Street, Burlington, 951-2424.
Drink, 133 St. Paul St., Burlington, 951-9463.
Elixir, 188 S. Main St., White River Jct., 281-7009.
Finnigan's Pub, 205 College St., Burlington, 864-8209.
Flynn Center/FlynnSpace, 153 Main St., Burlington, 863-5966.
Franny O's, 733 Queen City Pk. Rd., Burlington, 863-2909.
[illegible], 5 Bridge St., Plattsburgh, 518-561-5856.
Good Times Café, Rt. 116, Hinesburg, 482-4444.
Great Falls Club, Frog Hollow Alley, Middlebury, 388-0239.
Green Room Studio, 78 Howard St., Burlington, 316-1531.
Green Room, 86 St. Paul St., Burlington, 651-9669.
[illegible] Restaurant, 1608 Williston Rd., S. Burlington, 658-2572.
Gusto's, 28 Prospect St., Barre, 476-7919.
Halvorson's Upstreet Café, 16 Church St., Burlington, 658-0278.
Harbor Lounge at Courtyard Marriott, 25 Cherry St., Burlington, 864-4700.
Hardwick Town House, 127 Church St., Hardwick, 456-8966.
Harper's Restaurant at Holiday Inn, 1068 Williston Rd., S. Burlington, 863-6363.
Higher Ground, 1214 Williston Rd., S. Burlington, 652-0777.
[illegible], 1005 Shelburne Rd., S. Burlington, 658-4668.
The Hub, Airport Dr., Bristol, 453-3678.
The Hub Pizzeria & Pub, 21 Lower Main St., Johnson, 635-7626.
Iron Lantern, Route 4A, Castleton, 468-5474.
JD's Pub, 7689 Rt. 105, East Berkshire, 933-8636.
JP's Pub, 139 Main St., Burlington, 658-6389.
Jeff's Maine Seafood, 65 N. Main St., St. Albans, 524-6135.
Koffee Kat, 24 Margaret St., Plattsburgh, NY, 518-566-8433.
[illegible] Saloon, [illegible] Margaret St., Plattsburgh, NY, 518-570-[illegible].
La Brioche Bakery, 89 Main St., Montpelier, 229-0443.
Langdon St. Café, 4 Langdon St., Montpelier, 223-8667.
Leunig's, 115 Church St., Burlington, 863-3759.
Lincoln Inn Tavern, 4 Park St., Essex Jct., 878-3309.
Localfolk Smokehouse, Jct. Rt. 100 & 17, Waitsfield, 496-5623.
Mad River Unplugged at Valley Players Theater, Rt. 100, Waitsfield, 496-8910.
Maggie's, 124 Margaret St., Plattsburgh, 518-563-9318.
Main St. Grill, 118 Main St., Montpelier, 223-3188.
Main St. Museum, 58 Bridge St., White River Jct., 356-2776.
Manhattan Pizza & Pub, 167 Main St., Burlington, 658-6776.
Mary's at the Inn at Baldwin Creek, 1868 N. Route 116, Bristol, 453-2432.
Matterhorn, 4969 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-8198.
McKee's Pub, 19 East Allen St., Winooski, 655-0048.
Memorial Auditorium, 250 Main St., Burlington, 864-6044.
The Monkey House, 30 Main St., Winooski, 655-4563.
Monopole, 7 Protection Ave., Plattsburgh, N.Y., 518-563-2222.
Muddy Waters, 184 Main St., Burlington, 658-0466.
[illegible] Tavern, 4 Lincoln Pl., Essex Jct., [illegible].
[illegible], 48 Creek Rd., Middlebury, 388-7658.
Naked Turtle, 1 Dock St., Plattsburgh, N.Y., 518-566-6200.
Nectar's, 188 Main St., Burlington, 658-4771.
Nightcrawlers, 128 Porters Point Rd., Colchester, 872-4088.
Odd Fellows Hall, 8 A North Ave., Burlington, 862-3209.
Old Lantern, 3260 Greenbush Rd., Charlotte, 425-2120.
Olde Yankee Restaurant, Rt. 15, Jericho, 899-1116.
Olive Ridley's, 37 Court St., Plattsburgh, 518-324-2200.
On the Rise Bakery, 44 Bridge St., Richmond, 434-7787.
[illegible] Pub & Grill, Route 108, Jeffersonville, 644-8884.
Overtime Saloon, 38 S. Main St., St. Albans, 524-0707.
Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland, 775-0570.
Parima, 185 Pearl St., Burlington, 864-7917.
Park Place Tavern, 38 Park St., Essex Jct., 878-3015.
Peabody's Pub, Clinton St., Plattsburgh, 518-561-2158.
Pickle Barrel Nightclub, Killington Rd., Killington, 422-3035.
[illegible], [illegible] Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-4423.
Positive Pie 2, 20 State St., Montpelier, 229-0453.
The Pour House, [illegible] Rd., South Burlington, 862-8800.
Purple Moon Pub, Rt. 100, Waitsfield, 496-3422.
Radio Bean, 8 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington, 660-9346.
Rasputin's, 163 Church St., Burlington, 864-9324.
Red Mill Restaurant at Basin Harbor, Vergennes, 475-2311.
Red Square, 136 Church St., Burlington, 859-8909.
Rhythm & Brews Coffeehouse at Living and Learning, UVM, Burlington, 656-4281.
Ripton Community Coffee House, Rt. 125, 388-9782.
Rí Rá Irish Pub, 123 Church St., Burlington, 860-9401.
River Run Restaurant, 65 Main St., Plainfield, 454-1246.
Roque's Restaurante Mexicano & Cantina, [illegible] Main St., [illegible], [illegible].
Ruben James, 159 Main St., Burlington, 864-0744.
Rusty Nail, Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-6245.
Second Floor, 135 Church St., Burlington, 660-2088.
Shooters Saloon, 30 Kingman St., St. Albans, 527-3777.
Skinny Pancake, 60 Lake St., Burlington, 540-0188.
Smugglers' Notch Inn, 55 Church St., Jeffersonville, 644-6607.
St. John's Club, 9 Central Ave., Burlington, 864-9778.
Starry Night Café, 5371 Rt. 7, Ferrisburgh, 877-6316.
[illegible], [illegible] N. Main St., Barre, 476-[illegible].
Stowe Coffee House, 580 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-2189.
Stowehof Inn, 434 Edson Hill Rd., Stowe, 253-9722.
Sweetwaters, 120 Church St., Burlington, 864-9800.
Tabu Café & Nightclub, 14 Margaret St., Plattsburgh, 518-566-0666.
Tamarack Grill at Burke Mountain, 223 Sherburne Lodge Rd., East Burke, 626-7394.
[illegible] Restaurant & Bar, [illegible], Colchester, 655-[illegible].
[illegible] Tavern, [illegible], 899-4542.
Three Mountain Lodge Restaurant, Smugglers' Notch Rd., Rt. 108, Jeffersonville, 644-5736.
Two Brothers Tavern, 86 Main St., Middlebury, 388-0002.
Upper Deck Pub at the Windjammer, 1076 Williston Rd., S. Burlington, 862-6585.
Valley Players Theater, Rt. 100, Waitsfield, 496-8910.
Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St., Vergennes, 802-877-6737.
Vermont Pub & Brewery, 144 College St., Burlington, 865-0500.
Village Tavern at Smugglers' Notch Inn, 55 Church St., Jeffersonville, 644-6765.
[illegible] City Station, [illegible], Colchester, 326-8885.
Waterbury Wings, [illegible] Main St., Waterbury, 244-7827.
Watershed Tavern, 31 Center St., Brandon, 247-0100.
Waterfront Theater, 60 Lake St., Burlington, 862-7469.

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PHISH PLAYS ON ROOFTOP! :: Bummed that you got hosed in the lottery for Phish reunion tickets? Get in line ... again. While there's not much consolation to be had if you missed out on your chance to be in Hampton, Virginia, this March — aside from paying extortion-at prices for tix on eBay, that is — jilted Phishheads can still catch a glimpse of the Phab Four closer to home. Or one-phourth, at least. This Tuesday, Phish bassist Mike Gordon wraps up his 2008 tour with a show at the Higher Ground Ballroom. And, not to start wild, unconfirmed rumors, but has there ever been a Phish-related solo show that hasn't included "special" guests? Just sayin'.

THU 01 << 13B

LAND SEAN Jazz Sessions (jazz), 6 p.m. Free. Shane Hardiman Group (jazz), 8 p.m. Free. Anthony Santor Trio (jazz), 11 p.m. $3.

RASPUTIN'S Dakota (hip-hop), 10 p.m. Free.

RED SQUARE A-Dog Presents (hip-hop), 10 p.m. Free.

SECOND FLOOR Wildout! (DJ), 10 p.m. Free/$5. 18+.

central

STONECUTTERS BREWHOUSE Trivia Night, 7 p.m. Free.

champlain valley

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN DJ Jam Man (top 40), 10 p.m. Free.

northern

BEE'S KNEES The Peace (folk), 7:30 p.m. Donations.

regional

OLIVE RIDLEY'S Open Mike with Mike Pedersen, 9 p.m. Free. Naked Thursdays with DJ TripleX (DJ), 10 p.m. Free.

TABU CAFÉ AND NIGHTCLUB Karaoke Night with Sassy Entertainment, 5 p.m. Free.

FRI.02

burlington area

BACKSTAGE PUB Karaoke with Steve, 9 p.m. Free.

CHAMPLAIN LANES FAMILY FUN CENTER U Be the Star Karaoke with Michaellen Longe, 8 p.m. Free.

GREEN ROOM DJ Fattie B (hip-hop), 10 p.m. Free.

JP'S PUB Dave Harrison's Starstruck Karaoke, 10 p.m. Free.

NECTAR'S Aofy Schlatter (singer-songwriter), 5 p.m. Free. Seth Yacovone (solo acoustic blues), 7 p.m. Free.

NIGHTCRAWLERS Phil 'N The Blanks (rock), 9 p.m. Free.

RADIO BEAN Raina Rose (indie-folk), 6 p.m. Free.

RASPUTIN'S Top Hat Entertainment (DJ), 10 p.m. $3.

RED SQUARE Nastee (hip-hop), 11:30 p.m. $3. Me & You with Brett Hughes and Marie Claire (country), 6 p.m. Free.

RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB Supersounds DJ, 10 p.m. Free.

SECOND FLOOR Voodoo with DJ Robbie J (hip-hop), 8 p.m. $3/10.

SKINNY PANCAKE Zack DuPont & APB (singer-songwriters), 8 p.m. Donations.

central

LANGDON STREET CAFÉ Happy Hour with Abbe Jenne (folk), 6 p.m. Donations. Strength in Numbers (hip-pop), 8 p.m. Donations.

SLIDE BROOK LODGE & TAVERN Maganahan's Revival (rock), 8 p.m. Free.

champlain valley

ON THE RISE BAKERY Live Music, 7:30 p.m. Donations.

northern

BEE'S KNEES Mark Struhsacker (singer-songwriter), 7:30 p.m. Donations.

JP'S PUB Live Music, 8:30 p.m. $3.

regional

MONOPOLE Live Music (rock), 10 p.m. Free.

SAT.03

burlington area

BACKSTAGE PUB Smokin' Gun (rock), 9 p.m. Free.

CLUB METRONOME Retronome ('80s dance party), 10 p.m. $5.

FRANNY O'S Balance DJ & Karaoke, 9 p.m. Free.

GREEN ROOM DJs Tricky Pat & Chris Pattison (electro), 10 p.m. Free.

JP'S PUB Dave Harrison's Starstruck Karaoke, 10 p.m. Free.

MARRIOTT HARBOR LOUNGE Paul & Tracie Cazzarine, Jeff Wheel (acoustic), 6 p.m. Free.

NIGHTCRAWLERS The Melonheads (rock), 9 p.m. Free.

RADIO BEAN Foofaraok with The Fatal Flaws (garage-rock), 7 p.m. Free.

RASPUTIN'S Massive (DJ), 10 p.m. $3.

RED SQUARE DJ A-Dog (hip-hop), 11:30 p.m. $3. Eastside (rock), 8 p.m. $3.

RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB Live Music (rock), 10 p.m. Free.

SECOND FLOOR Déjà Vu Ladies' Night (DJ), 8 p.m. $3/10.

SKINNY PANCAKE Josh Brooks (singer-songwriter), 8 p.m. Donations.

central

BLACK DOOR BAR & BISTRO PanAche Steelfrum Band (steel drum), 9:30 p.m. $3-5.

LANGDON STREET CAFÉ The Hungry Rat Revue (performance art), 7:30 p.m. Donations. Eliza Moore & Kris Gruen (indie-folk), 9 p.m. Donations.

SLIDE BROOK LODGE & TAVERN Varnes (jazz-fusion), 9 p.m. Free.

champlain valley

CITY LIMITS Dance Party with DJ Earl (DJ), 9 p.m. Free.

ON THE RISE BAKERY Live Music, 7:30 p.m. Donations.

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN Frank Nimo Day, 11 a.m. Free.

northern

BEE'S KNEES Damn Yankee String Band (Americana), 7:30 p.m. Donations.

PICASSO Karaoke Championship with John Wilson & Danger Dave, 8:30 p.m. Free.

regional

KRAZY HORSE SALOON Line Dancing, 8 p.m. Free.

MONOPOLE Live Music (rock), 10 p.m. Free.

TABU CAFÉ AND NIGHTCLUB All Night Dance Party with DJ Toxic (DJ), 5 p.m. Free.

SUN.04

burlington area

1/2 LOUNGE YouTube Night, 10 p.m. Free.

BACKSTAGE PUB Karaoke with Pete, 9 p.m. Free.

CLUB METRONOME Family Night Open Jam, 10 p.m. Free (18+).

FRANNY O'S Balance DJ & Karaoke, 9 p.m. Free.

HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM Wu-Tang Clan (hip-hop), 9:30 p.m. $40/45. AA.

LINCOLN INN TAVERN Pine Street Jazz, 6 p.m. Free.

NECTAR'S Mi Yard Reggae Night with Big Dog & Demus (reggae), 10 p.m. Free.

NIGHTCRAWLERS Karaoke with Steve LeClair, 7 p.m. Free.

RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB Irish Session, 5 p.m. Free.

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RETN — VERMONT YOUTH ORCHESTRA, THURSDAYS > 9 P.M.
17 Town Meeting Television — DEE DEE MYERS: WHY WOMEN SHOULD RULE, SATURDAY 12/27 > 8 P.M.
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central

LANGDON STREET CAFÉ: Winter Concert Series: Soaked Oats (folk), 3 p.m. Donations.

northern

BEE'S KNEES: Cody Michaels (singer-songwriter), noon, Donations. Allen Church (folk), 7:30 p.m. Donations.
THE HUB PIZZERIA & PUB: Jazz on Tap (jazz), 7:30 p.m. Free.

MON.05

burlington area

1/2 LOUNGE: Heal In Sessions with Briandeye & Reverence (reggae), 10 p.m. Free.
242 MAIN: Indifference, Roam Alone (hardcore), 7 p.m. $7.
RADIO BEAN: Open Mike, 8 p.m., Free.
RED SQUARE: Myra Flynn & Spark (neo soul), 8 p.m. Free.

central

LANGDON STREET CAFÉ: Open Mike, 7 p.m. Free.

TUE.06

burlington area

PARIMA ACOUSTIC LOUNGE: Island Night with DJ Skinny T (DJ), 9 p.m., Free.
RADIO BEAN: Dan Gas (psycho-tropical), 6 p.m. Free. Honky Tonk Sessions (honky tonk), 10 p.m. $3.
RED SQUARE: World Bashment with Demus & Super K (reggae), 9 p.m. Free.

central

CHARLIE O'S: Karaoke, 10 p.m. Free.
LANGDON STREET CAFÉ: Live Music, 8 p.m. Donations.
STONECUTTERS BREWHOUSE: Open Mike, 7 p.m. Free.

champlain valley

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN: Monster Hits Karaoke, 9 p.m.

northern

BEE'S KNEES: Live Music, 7:30 p.m. Donations.
PICASSO: Karaoke, 9 p.m. Free.

WED.07

burlington area

1/2 LOUNGE: DJ A-Dog (hip-hop), 9 p.m. Free.
NECTAR'S: An Evening with W.E.S.T. (jazz), 5 p.m. Free.
RADIO BEAN: Ensemble V (jazz), 7 p.m. Free. Irish Sessions, 9 p.m. Free.
RED SQUARE: DJ Craig (hip-hop), 11 p.m. Free. Grippo/Sklar Quintet (funk), 8 p.m. Free.
SECOND FLOOR: Superstar Karaoke with Robbie J, 10 p.m. Free/$5. 18+

central

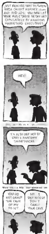
LANGDON STREET CAFÉ: The Speedbumps (chamber folk), 8 p.m. Donations.

northern

BEE'S KNEES: Shrimp & Friends (roots), 7:30 p.m. Donations. ⑦

bassistwanted

BY PORTER MASON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[illegible]
TWAS THE NIGHT AFTER CHRISTMAS AND ALL THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE w/ Tricky Pat, Justin B & Justin REM

Sat 12.27
7pm KIP MEAKER (blues)
10pm FINLEY VS. K.O.

Sun 12.28
YOU TUBE NIGHT share your favorite video with the other 5 of us at the bar

Mon 12.29
HEAL IN SESSIONS (roots/dub) w/ Brianeye & Reverence

Tue 12.30
HALF-SAID a night of spoken word poetry, hot drinks & music. Hosted by Myra Flynn

Wed 12.31
MY 2 DADS IN ASSOC. WITH OKAY OKAY & DJ DEALS present THE FINAL COUNTDOWN 08/09 with Tricky Pat, Luc Calderon & Stavros

Thur 1.01
CLOSED

Fri 01.02
7pm Quiet Songs-The Myra Flynn Trio
10pm BLACK (il mensione in house) with DJ CRAIG MITCHELL

Sat 01.03
7pm KIP MEAKER (blues)
10pm caldwell & goodspeed
HOOLIGAN DISCO

Sun 01.04
YOU TUBE NIGHT share your favorite video with the other 5 of us at the bar

Mon 01.05
HEAL IN SESSIONS (roots/dub) w/ Brianeye & Reverence

Tue 01.06
ACOUSTIC SET w/ Bret Hughes & Myra Flynn

Wed 01.07
7pm SIRENIX ACOUSTIC MUSICIANS WORKSHOP
10pm WHIPLASH Drum & Bass with Basscamp & Touchphonics

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Auld Aquaintances

COMPILED BY DAN BOLLES

These are heady, uncertain times we live in. As such, holiday wishes and hopes for the New Year carry extra significance as we look toward 2009. What follows are the (somewhat) heartfelt hopes and dreams of various members of Vermont's music community. This year, we received far more submissions than we had space to print, so you can read the rest on the *Seven Days* music blog, *Solid State* (7d.blogs.com/solidstate).

1. A brand-new, shiny economy with extra money for those who need it, coming directly out of the wallets of those who don't.
2. A Tribe Called Quest and Fugees reunion concert at Steez on my birthday.
3. A night of *serious* drinking with Smiling Tom Messner, Pamela Polston, The Lugger, Howard Dean, Amy Winehouse and myself.

Kyle Thompson
DJ, MC, owner of Steez

I wish for an armored ATV/Popemobile-style vehicle that will drive Mikey Dread and I around so we both don't have another year like this last one.

Daryl Rabidoux
Strangeways Recording/Not-for-Profit Stunt man

1. For musicians, writers and artists to get along and support each other [illegible] more.
2. A forum for reviews of all music that comes through Burlington — yes, to review everything.
3. For bands to play three sets — an entire night, like it used to be.
4. More clubs and live-music coffeehouses.

Charlie Messing
Singer and guitarist, formerly with Be That Way and Johnny Vermont

1. For The Jesus Lizard to make it back to Vermont for their reunion tour.
2. A Vermont summer music festival with no jam bands.
3. A pinball saloon/bar with the ultimate jukebox music selection by WRUV & Radiator DJs.
4. For Tick Tick to take over a small dive bar and stop pretending The Bakery is a secret.
5. A Rock and Roller Skate Music Rink!
6. No more Mexican restaurants that suck.

The Free Range Chicken
WRUV DJ & general community do-gooder

I hope Santa brings a hammer and one final nail to drive into the coffin of postmodernism.

Michael Chorney
Composer, arranger, multi-instrumentalist

I would like a crystal-clear description of the niche my newest set of songs fits into, so I can decide how tight my jeans should be, what bands I should make friends with, and what clubs would fall over their beer-soaked rugs to have me on their stage. This would save a lot of hair pulling, poring over concert calendars and unanswered emails to Tick Tick. Barring that, a house with a recording studio two hours from every East Coast city.

Syd
Singer-songwriter

A *Seven Days* music critic who is more knowledgeable and less clever, more in-depth and less hip and jaded. Someone who actually reviews *the songs* on a CD and not merely lumps them all, as well as the artist, in some tidy category of said critic's own making. And if said critic refers to said artist's history, he/she should feel some obligation to actually *get it right*.

Patrick Joseph Fitzsimmons
Singer-songwriter

I would like the City Market parking lot to be redesigned, and preferably not by someone who enjoys demolition derbies and screaming hippies. Simply making it one-way would seem adequate.

Alex Nief
Comedian

My usual answer to "What do you want for Christmas?" is, "to be free of obligation." But since you asked:
I want satire and irony to be taught in schools.
I want listeners to value the dynamic content of their music, rather than just how loud it is.
I want people to listen to albums, rather than "collections of singles."

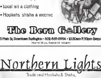
Joel Abbott
The Go Ahead And

1. An American flag autographed by Becky Rogers and Rev. Sullivan of The Dirty Blondes.
2. For Casey Rae-Hunter to move back to Burlington so we can finally start our psychedelic dirge band called The Idea of Sand.
3. A proper Zola Turn reunion show in 2009 ... hmm.

Sean Altrui
Musician/booking agent

I wish that all the vocal microphone grilles in all the bars and clubs in Burlington will have a nice, long, wintry soak in disinfectant this holiday season.

Creston Lea
Guitar maker, rock 'n' roller ⑦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TOP 10 Vermont Recordings of 2008

CRINKLES — *Crinkles EP*

IN MEMORY OF PLUTO — *Cutting Open the Fiction*

MY FIRST DAYS ON JUNK — *No Order*

FARM — *The Cove*

JAPHY RYDER — *No Consequence*

SETH EAMES — *Two Moons Pullin' Down on Me*

HUNGRYTOWN — *Hungrytown*

THE FATAL FLAWS — *Scrogged*

LENDWAY — *The Low Red End*

FORREST MULERATH — *Screaming Homemade Prayers in a Madman's House*

2008 proved to be yet another intriguing year in the evolution of Vermont-made music. For some time now, a stunning array of styles has emerged from all corners of the Green Mountain State. But it's likely that at no point in the state's history has the sheer variety of locavore music been so dynamic. To wit:

Americana has held significant sway in the hearts and minds of Vermonters since forever. And with stellar releases from the likes of stringrass outfit Big Spike, folksy trio Beard & Bones, newcomers Erin McDermott & The Plain Bad Delights, "cosmic Americans" Red Hot Juba and a host of others, there was plenty of hot pickin' and sweet harmony to choose from this year. A trio of releases — a "Best Of," a live album and a nifty 45 — from rockabilly stalwarts Starline Rhythm Boys didn't hurt, either. Nor did excellent indie-folk and singer-songwriter fare from the likes of Paddy Reagan, Shane Grady, Jenny Mentone, Jay Ekis and expats Avi & Celia.

Similarly, jazz has long been a Vermont staple. In particular, works from psychotropical collective Gua Gua, legendary avant-garde trumpeter Bill Dixon, avant provocateurs Art Bacardi & Anthony Santor and a pair of offerings from the Patton clan — Will and daughter Anna — kept hepcats and purists alike groovin' through Jazz Fest and beyond. The best new "Vermont" band not actually from Vermont, Afro-funk ragamuffins Rubblebucket Orchestra, checked in with a top-notch debut as well.

Hip-hop — in Vermont? Yes. Get over it already — continued to thrive as VT Union and Burnt MD & The Professor each released superb followups to their 2007 releases. And a tasty EP from The Algorhythms made us long for the return of prodigal MC Thirtyseven.

As nice as the wealth of releases in these genres — and others — was, the real story this year was the triumphant return of capital "R" Rock to the Green Mountains. The volume in Vermont hasn't been turned this high since Burlington's halcyon alt-rock heyday in the 1990s and — sacrilege alert — maybe not even then. In both quantity and quality, rock music dominated in 2008. And with an unprecedented breadth of stylistic variety, the rejuvenated rock scene served as a microcosm for the entirety of Vermont music.

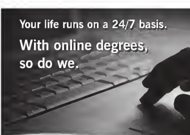
From the straight-ahead forays of Elephantbear and Manowars to devilish ravings from hardcore teenagers Ccome? subversive aesthete Mickey Western and ironic metal newbies Cherry Cassette, there was nary a sun rock unturned. Indie-pop? How 'bout some Smittens? Punk? Pop punk (Hello Control) or old school (Yeti)? Dirty, retro psychedelia? King Tuff, Blues & Lovers. Alt-rock? The New Year. Prog rock? Bad Sect. Alt-country? (Yeah, it's still rock.) Lucastar Chain. And that's to say nothing of striking releases from expats (Pretty & Nice) and pseudo-Vermont acts (The Powder Kegs).

To quote Ol' Blue Eyes: For rock fans, it was a very good year, indeed. And with impending releases from the likes of The Cush, Cannon Fodder and Headonis AKA, 2009 looks to continue the trend. Rock on.

This "Top 10" list represents some of the finest recorded material released this year, according to this critic and this critic alone. I'm sure most regular readers and local music connoisseurs will have their own. And that's the great thing about our cozy but increasingly broad music scene: There's something to please almost anyone. These are merely the discs — and downloads and records — that pleased me.

As always, the selections are presented in no particular order; they're just 10 great recordings from a sparkling year in Vermont music. Thanks for listening.

DAN BOLLES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THU.01

BEST FOOT FORWARD

After traditional midnight celebrations marking the turn of the twelvemonth, most folks aren't ready for an early wakeup and physical exertion. But there's a lot to be said for getting out in the fresh air just hours into the new year. Weather permitting — and snow doesn't really count — scores of runners will do just that during RunVermont's annual First Run race around the Queen City's downtown. It's no marathon, but 5K will get your heart rate up, and silly costumes are encouraged. Kids can join in for a fun run segment, and registration fees include postrace food and entry into a raffle for running gear. Not the type to go the distance? Volunteers can still enjoy the chipper attitude of those willing to leg it when most are sleeping off the previous night's party.

FIRST RUN

Thursday, January 1, at Memorial Auditorium in Burlington. Registration, 9:30-10:45 a.m.; kids' 1-mile fun run, 10:30 a.m.; 5K run & walk, 11 a.m.; award ceremony, 11:45 a.m. $5-20. Info, 863-8412. www.runvermont.org

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FRI.26

activism

BURLINGTON PEACE VIGIL: Activists stand together in opposition to the U.S. occupation of Iraq. Top of Church Street, Burlington, 5-5:30 p.m. Free. Info, 863-2345.

art

Also, see exhibitions in Section A.

FIVE TOWN MASSIVE ART DROP-OFF: Green Mountain State creators of all stripes bring work they'd like to show — sculptures, photographs, clothing, paintings, quilts — to the site of a Saturday multidisciplinary arts festival. Holley Hall, Bristol, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free. Info, 845-797-9942, info@fivetownmassive.com.

dance

ARGENTINEAN TANGO: Shoulders back, chin up. With or without partners, dancers of all abilities strut to bandoneón riffs in a self-guided practice session. Salsalina Studio, Burlington, 7:30-10 p.m. $5. Info, 598-1077.

BALLROOM DANCE SOCIAL: Singles and couples of all ages learn ballroom, swing and Latin dancing. Jazzercise Studio, Williston, 7 p.m. $12. Info, 862-2269, elahel@comcast.net.

etc

BLANKET & WARM CLOTHING DRIVE: Donors drop off new and gently used cozy coverings for distribution among agencies that serve Chittenden County's homeless. Dang's Pack & Ship Plus, Winooski, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free. Info, 655-2567.

FIVE TOWN MASSIVE: A hip-hop showcase kicks off this inclusive, two-day festival of live music, art and film. The Hub, Bristol, 7-10 p.m. $5 per person or $10 per family. Info, 845-797-9942, info@fivetownmassive.com.

MEDITATION GROUP: Mellow out your mind at a short session of sitting practice. Burlington Infoshop, Burlington, 9-10 a.m. Free. Info, 338-1613, info@crashcollective.org.

SLEIGH RIDES: Weather permitting, jingling horses trot visitors over the snow on a wintry tour of rolling acres. Rides depart every half-hour from the Welcome Center, Shelburne Farms, Shelburne, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. $4-8, free for kids under 3. Info, 985-8442.

food & drink

CHOCOLATE DIPPING DEMO: Fans of cocoa-covered confectionery see how it's made. Laughing Moon Chocolates, Stowe, 2 p.m. Free. Info, 253-9591.

health & fitness

ZUMBA BURLINGTON: Exercise in disguise? People of all ages and abilities get a workout at what appears to be a Latin dance party. North End Studio, Burlington, 5:30-6:30 p.m. $7. Info, 734-6621.

holidays

CHANDLER HOLIDAY GIFT BAZAAR: Fine arts, housewares, food items and clothing accompany live dances and musical acts at this benefit market set up like a Vermont general store. Chandler Gallery, Randolph, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free. Info, 728-9878.

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM. Visitors experience 19th-century festivities with horse-drawn sleigh rides and sledding, then help make sweet treats in a woodstove-centered kitchen. Billings Farm and Museum, Woodstock, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. $3-11. Info, 457-2355.

kids

ANIMAL FEEDING. Watch critters do dinner with help from the animal-care staff. ECHO at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, Burlington, 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. & 3 p.m. $7-9.50. Info, 864-1848.

movies

Also, see movie theater showtimes in Section A.

'CHILDREN OF WINTER': Skiers and snowboarders register for door prizes at a screening of Warren Miller's extreme winter-sports footage, which includes frosty shots from Japan, Austria, Iceland and Alaska. Vermont Ski Museum, Stowe, 7 p.m. Call for cost. Info, 253-9911.

theater

'LES MISÉRABLES': The Paris student rebellion of 1832 comes alive in this song-through mega-musical based on Victor Hugo's mega-sized novel. Briggs Opera House, White River Junction, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. $15-58. Info, 296-7000.

SAT.27

dance

BALLROOM DANCE SOCIAL. Singles and couples of all ages learn ballroom, swing and Latin dancing. Jazzercize Studio, Williston, 7-10 p.m. $12. Info, 862-2269, abiba@comcast.net.

FORMAL HOLIDAY BALL. Polished partiers ages 18 and older get gussied up to enjoy dance music by The Hot Entertainment at a post-Christmas shindig. Green Mountain Ballroom, Hilton Hotel, Burlington, 9 p.m. $15 includes hors d'oeuvres. Info, 863-5899.

SAT.27 >> 20B

PARTY HEARTY

Dinner-dance options abound for New Year's Eve merrymakers, and regardless of whether you plan to imbibe bubbly at the stroke of midnight, it's a good idea to fortify yourself with a feast before hitting the floor. Attendees of the Old Lantern's year-end bash can boogie to music by Burlington-based rock quartet Quadra and linger at an hour-and-a-half-long dinner buffet with hors d'oeuvres. Afterward, the *pièce de résistance*: Chef Roland Gaujacq's "Buche de Noël," a frosted roll cake decorated in fine French tradition to mimic a yule log. Party favors and a chocolate fountain round out the evening, along with — of course — more dancing.

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER DANCE
Wednesday, December 31, 8:30 p.m. - 1 a.m., at the Old Lantern in Charlotte. $42.75-45. Info, 893-5966. www.oldlantern.org

WED.31

TUE.30

MILITAINMENT, INC.

WAR ON SHRUGS

Teddy bears in camouflage fatigues? A computer game based on a joint-chiefs-of-staff training scenario? War news sans body bags? If you've noticed that it's harder and harder to tell the difference between U.S. news coverage of war and its depictions in movies and video games, you're not alone. In his documentary *Militainment, Inc.*, University of Georgia communications professor Roger Stahl compiles striking examples of military motifs in pop culture, and of those same motifs turning up in TV news broadcasts. Distributed by the Northampton, Massachusetts-based Media Education Foundation, the film takes a "m at e guns and buttered-popcorn" approach to war and suffering, and asks whether news-as-entertainment affects U.S. citizens' ability to evaluate the real human costs of military action. The Peace and Justice Center's "Recruiting for Peace" campaign coordinates a screening at the Burlington nonprofit Crash Collective's new, collaboratively maintained, activist-oriented "infoshop" space at 117 Bank Street.

"MILITAINMENT, INC."
Tuesday, December 30, 7 p.m., at the Burlington Infoshop in Burlington. Donations. Info, 338-1413. www.crashcollective.org

<calender>

Listings and spotlights
Meghan Dewald

submission guidelines

All submissions are due in writing at noon on the Thursday before publication. Be sure to include the following in your email or fax: name of event, brief description, specific location, time, cost and contact phone number. SEVEN DAYS edits for space and style.

Use our convenient online form at:
www.7dvt.com/postevent

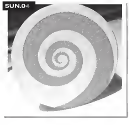
calendar@sevendaysvt.com
802-865-1015 (fax)
SEVEN DAYS, P.O. Box 1164
Burlington, VT 05402-1164

TRANCE CHANCE

While researching the healing properties of magnets in the 18th century, German physician Franz Mesmer discovered that he could put people in a trance just by rhythmically moving his hands in front of their eyes. For the next century and a half, "mesmerization" was viewed alternately as hocus-pocus hokum and a dangerously effective mind-control technique, à la the silent film villain Svengali. The current consensus is that hypnosis works, and — barring stage shows — that it's helpful. In 1996, the National Institutes of Health declared the practice effective for chronic pain reduction. Today, hypnosis helps women birth babies, smokers quit their habits, and stressed-out folks cope with anxiety. Burlington-based hypnotherapist Samuel Lane offers an overview of the "state of relaxed well-being" on World Hypnotism Day.

WORLD HYPNOTISM DAY
Sunday, January 4, 4-5:30 p.m., at the Fletcher Free Library in Burlington. Free. Info, 578-9391. www.worldhypnotismday.com

SUN.04



<calendar>

SAT.27 << 19B

etc

BLANKET & WARM CLOTHING DRIVE: See FRI.26. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

DIGITAL VIDEO EDITING: Camera wielders who've taken an access orientation course learn how to create nonlinear narratives with Final Cut Pro software. VCAM Studio, Burlington. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Free. Info, 651-9692.

FIVE TOWN MASSIVE: Screenings of feature-length films and shorts segment day two of this homegrown arts festival, in tandem with a catch-all exhibition of creative artifacts. Holley Hall, Bristol, 7 p.m. $5 per person, or $16 per family. Info, 845-797-6942, info@fivetownmassive.com.

SLEIGH RIDES: See FRI.26. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

TWO-WAY APRONS: Crafty types create reversible tie-on clothing protectors from repurposed fabrics. The Bobbin Sew Bar & Craft Lounge, Burlington. 2-4 p.m. $40 includes materials. Info, 862-7417, rachel@thebobbin.com.

food & drink

RUTLAND WINTER FARMERS' MARKET: Shoppers seeking locally raised edibles pick up root vegetables, cheeses, pickles and other tasty provender. Rutland Natural Food Market, Rutland. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Free. Info, 438-6663.

health & fitness

ZUMBA BURLINGTON: See FRI.26. 8:30-9:30 a.m.

holidays

CHANDLER HOLIDAY GIFT BAZAAR: See FRI.26. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM: See FRI.26. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

kids

ANIMAL FEEDING: See FRI.26. 10:50 a.m., 12:50 p.m., 5 p.m.

KIDS' CRAFT LAB: Small hands work with recycled materials to make new stuff. The Bobbin Sew Bar & Craft Lounge, Burlington, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. $5 per parent-accompanied child. Info, 862-7417, rachel@thebobbin.com.

'SATURDAY STORIES': Librarians read from popular picture books. Brownell Memorial Library, Colchester. 10 a.m. Free. Info, 878-6515.

movies

Also, see movie theater showtimes in Section A.

'CHILDREN OF WINTER': See FRI.26. 7 p.m.

sport

GREEN MOUNTAIN TIP-OFF TOURNAMENT: The Vermont Frost Heaves host teams from Quebec City, Montreal and Manchester in a two-day, four-game [illegible] season starter. Barre Municipal Auditorium, Barre, 1:05 p.m. $8-15. Info, 863-5999.

'JINGLE BELL ROCK' HOLIDAY ICE SKATE: Holiday tunes inspire glide-a-to try ice dancing *en famille*. Leddy Park Arena, Burlington. 8-10 p.m. $5, skate rental $3 per pair. Info, 862-8899.

theater

'CHRISTMAS CAT AND THE PUDDING PIRATES': Hide your figgy desserts. In this kid-friendly adventure, a singing sea-faring feline and a meticulous mermaid encounter a plundering band of sweet-toothed "Pie Rats." Pendragon Theater, Saranac Lake, N.Y. 7 p.m. Call for cost. Info, 518-891-1854.

'LES MISÉRABLES': See FRI.26. 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

SUN.28

etc

FRENCH-ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP: Speakers of *Anglais* swap syllables with native French speakers *on parlez* [illegible]. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 4-5:30 p.m. Free. Info, 899-7211.

KNIT IT!: Learn how to cast on, bind off and fill the space between with a simple garter stitch. The Bobbin Sew Bar & Craft Lounge, Burlington. 2-4 p.m. $40 includes needles and yarn for a striped scarf. Info, 862-7417.

SCRABBLE CLUB: Triple-letter-square seekers wage word war. McClure MultiGenerational Center, Burlington. 2-6 p.m. Free. Info, 862-7558.

SLEIGH RIDES: See FRI.26. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

holidays

CHANDLER HOLIDAY GIFT BAZAAR: See FRI.26. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM: See FRI.26. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

HANUKKAH ACTIVITIES: A menorah lighting at 4 p.m. follows a magic show, and arts and crafts, cookies, dreidels and face-painting round out the holiday fun. University Mall, South Burlington. 12-5 p.m. Free. Info, 863-1066, ext. 11.

MILITAINMENT INC. (MOVIES)
See spotlight, p.198

KWANZAA CELEBRATION: Burlington's West African drum-and-dance ensemble Jeh Kulu performs at this interfaith community reflection on black heritage. Unitarian Church, Burlington. 11 a.m. Free. Info, 862-5051.

kids

ANIMAL FEEDING: See FRI.26. 10:50 a.m., 12:50 p.m., 5 p.m.

movies

Also, see movie theater showtimes in Section A.

'CHILDREN OF WINTER': See FRI.26. 7 p.m.

sport

GREEN MOUNTAIN TIP-OFF TOURNAMENT: See SAT.27. 1:05 p.m.

talks

'OFF-PISTE IN THE NORTHEAST': Morristown-based photographers Brian Mohr and Emily Johnson share a multimedia slideshow of backcountry adventure-skiing shots. Gatehouse Lodge, Sugarbush, Warren. 7:30 p.m. Free; benefit raffle tickets, $5. Info, 496-5434.

theater

'CHRISTMAS CAT AND THE PUDDING PIRATES': See SAT.27. 7 p.m.

'LES MISÉRABLES': See FRI.26. 2 p.m.

words

BOOK DISCUSSION: UVM education faculty member Kenneth Johnson discusses his new book *Resilience: Queer Professors from the Working Class*. Unitarian Church, Burlington. 12:30 p.m. Free. Info, 862-5630.

MON.29

activism

BURLINGTON PEACE VIGIL: See FRI.26. 5-5:30 p.m.

etc

BLANKET & WARM CLOTHING DRIVE: See FRI.26. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

MEDITATION GROUP: See FRI.26. 9:30 a.m.

SLEIGH RIDES: See FRI.26. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

food & drink

CHOCOLATE-DIPPING DEMO: See FRI.26. 2 p.m.

CRASH COLLECTIVE POTLUCK: Community-minded types share sustenance and swap ideas at a new grassroots gathering spot. Burlington Infoshop, Burlington. 7:30 p.m. Free; bring a vegetarian dish to share. Info, 336-1615, info@crashcollective.org.

holidays

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM: See FRI.26. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

kids

ANIMAL FEEDING: See FRI.26. 10:50 a.m., 12:50 p.m., 5 p.m.

FAMILY SING-ALONG: Parents and kids belt out fun family favorites. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 10-10:50 a.m. Free. Info, 865-7216.

'THE ELVES AND THE SHOEMAKER': The Traveling Storytellers puppeteers present the classic tale of a poor shoemaker enriched by small helpers. Brownell Library, Essex Junction. 2-3 p.m. Free. Info, 878-6956, brownell-library@yahoo.com.

movies

Also, see movie theater showtimes in Section A.

'CHILDREN OF WINTER': See FRI.26. 7 p.m.

sport

ADULT DODGEBALL: Coed teams revive recess in a dodge-style games with regulation soft spheres. Union Elementary School, Montpelier. 6-8 p.m. $3-15. Info, 225-6191.

theater

'LES MISÉRABLES': See FRI.26. 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

TUE.30

activism

BURLINGTON PEACE VIGIL: See FRI.26. 5-5:30 p.m.

etc

BLANKET & WARM CLOTHING DRIVE: See FRI.26. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

FIRST RUN (SPORT)
See spotlight, p.188

CAR DROP-OFF DAY: Donors deposit tax-deductible donations of vehicles at a nonprofit that specializes in wholesaling wheels for low-income households. Good News Garage, Burlington. 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free. Bring vehicle titles. Info, 877-448-5288.

MOVERS & SHAKERS: Individuals work on determining passions, setting goals and develop confidence by choosing and acting on three specific things weekly — then meeting next week to talk about it and choose three more. Burlington Infoshop, Burlington. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 658-1613, info@crashcollective.org.

PAUSE CAFÉ: Novice and fluent French speakers brush up on their linguistics — *en français*. Borders Books & Music, Burlington. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 865-1345.

SLEIGH RIDES: See FRI.26. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

food & drink

CHOCOLATE-DIPPING DEMO: See FRI.26. 2 p.m.

health & fitness

ZUMBA BURLINGTON: See FRI.26. 5:30-6:30 p.m.

ZUMBA FITNESS: Revelers get buff by keeping time with a trainy combo of aerobics and Latin dance. Olympia Health and Racquet Club, South Burlington. 7-8 p.m. $12. Info, 310-9998.

holidays

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM: See FRI.26. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

kids

ANIMAL FEEDING: See FRI.26. 10:50 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 5 p.m.

PIERSON LIBRARY STORYTIME: Little listeners cozy up to read-aloud books then get creative with a simple craft. Pierson Library, Shelburne. 10:30 a.m. Free. Info, 985-5124.

movies

Also, see movie theater showtimes in Section A.

'MILITAINMENT, INC.': This documentary explores the relationship between war and pop culture in the U.S. See calendar spotlight. Burlington Infoshop, Burlington. 7 p.m. Donations. Info, 658-1613, info@crashcollective.org.

sport

LAUGHTER YOGA: Chortlers channel the untapped healing power of yukking it up. Richmond Free Library, Richmond. 9:10 a.m. Free. Info, 349-5404.

talks

'OFF-PISTE IN THE NORTHEAST': See SUN.28. Spruce Camp Base Lodge, Stowe Mountain Resort, Stowe. 9:30-9:30 p.m. Free; benefit raffle tickets $5. Info, 496-5434.

theater

'LES MISÉRABLES': See FRI.26. 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

WED.31

activism

BURLINGTON PEACE VIGIL: See FRI.26. 5-5:30 p.m.

dance

CONTRA DANCE: The band Cuckoo's Nest settles in for the new year and caller Amy Cann calls festively attired dancers. Clean, soft-soled shoes. Tracy Hall, Norwich. 8 p.m. $7-10; free for ages 10 and younger. Please bring potluck finger foods to share. Info, 785-4607.

SALSALINA PRACTICE: Work on your sensuous rhythmical motions at this weekly Latin dance session. Salsalina Studio, Burlington. Intermediate, 8 p.m.; advanced, 7 p.m. $10. Info, 598-1077.

etc

BLANKET & WARM CLOTHING DRIVE: See FRI.26. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

MEDITATION GROUP: See FRI.26. 9:30 a.m.

SLEIGH RIDES: See FRI.26. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

food & drink

CHOCOLATE-DIPPING DEMO: See FRI.26. 2 p.m.

holidays

'A CELTIC NEW YEAR': More than 20 performing groups, plus open-mic sessions, entertain fans of Irish- and Scottish-themed music and dance at eight different venues. Afterward, revelers rally round a midnight bonfire next to Volunteers Green. Various locations, Richmond. 5-11:45 p.m. $8-10. Passes include admission to all events. Info, 434-4565.

'A NEW YEAR'S EVE TO REMEMBER': Revelers can choose to feast on four courses before moving into 2009 with music by the Gonzoboys. Dance tickets include dessert and a midnight champagne toast on the restored theater's balcony. Ring in the new year. Town Hall Theater, Middlebury. Dinner, 7 p.m.; dance, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Dinner and dance $100; dance only $20. Info, 382-9222.

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM: See FRI.26. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

FIRST NIGHT BURLINGTON: Stage shows, musical acts and arts activities kick off the new year as part of a city-wide and substance-free party. See www.firstnightburlington.com for a complete schedule. Various downtown locations, Burlington. 12-midnight. $5-25. Flynn MainStage and Memorial Auditorium shows require additional $2 tickets. Info, 863-6005.

FIRST NIGHT MONTPELIER: Music, puppets and a fireworks parade help citizens celebrate the advent of 2009. See www.mdca.org for a complete schedule. Various downtown locations, Montpelier. 3-midnight. $12-15. Info, 225-4608.

FIRST NIGHT ST. JOHNSBURY: Fireworks and a free pancake supper top off this arts-centered evening. See www.firstnightstj.com for a complete schedule. Various downtown locations, St. Johnsbury. 4-midnight. $10-15. Info, 748-2600, info@firstnightstj.com.

NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL: Singles and couples over age 21 gather for ballroom, swing and Latin dancing on two floors, followed by bubbly. Emerald Ballroom, Sheraton Hotel, South Burlington. Buffet dinner, 7-8 p.m.; dancing, 8 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. $55-75 includes dinner if tickets are purchased on or before December 26; dancing only $32.25-42.75. Info, 863-5966.

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER DANCE: Hors d'oeuvres and a dinner buffet pave the way for party favors as revelers rock to the music of Quadra. See calendar spotlight. Old Lantern, Charlotte. 8:30 p.m. - 1 a.m. $42.75-45. Info, 865-6986.

Sheraton Hotel, South Burlington, buffet dinner 7-8 p.m.; dancing 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m. $55.25 includes dinner if tickets are purchased on or before December 29; dancing only $32.25-42.75. Info, 865-5997.

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER DANCE: Hors d'oeuvres and a dinner buffet pave the way for party favors as revelers rock to the music of Quadra. See calendar spotlight. Old Lantern, Charlotte, 6:30 p.m.-1 a.m. $42.75-65. Info, 995-5976.

NEW YEAR'S ROCKIN' EVE: Queen City indie celebs of Camp 101.5 help rocket out dinner dancers and ring in 2009 to music by local bands Starcorde and The Mansfield Project. Sheraton Hotel, South Burlington, 7 p.m. $48 includes a full course buffet dinner; dancing only tickets sold after 12/29 subject to availability. Info, 865-5966.

SUPERHERO NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY: Disco funk band Pritymster headlines this fireworks-enhanced party featuring a movie marathon and a prix fixe meal; heroes in costume get free champagne for the midnight toast. Dinner seatings at 5 and 7 p.m. Big Picture Theater & Café, Waitsfield, 5 p.m. Call for cost. Info, 496-8994.

kids

ANIMAL FEEDING: See FRI.26, 10:50 a.m., 12:50 p.m., 5 p.m.

BABY TIME: Tots who can't walk yet are invited for a morning of playtime and sharing. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 10:30 a.m. Free. Info, 878-4918.

music

Also, see clubdates in Section B.

sport

NEW YEAR'S EVE SKATING: Festive tunes rally revelers to lace up bladed boots. Leddy Park Arena, Burlington, 7:30-9 p.m. $5; skate rental $5 per pair. First Night button holders do not get free admission. Info, 862-8869.

theater

'LES MISÉRABLES': See FRI.26, 2 p.m.

THU.01

holidays

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM: See FRI.26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

music

Also, see clubdates in Section B.

RENEWAL CHORUS: Fifteen college-aged veterans of the V Rags Harmony teen ensemble share shape-note, gospel and world music as part of a ten-town tour. Church of the Savior, Killington, 7:30 p.m. $5-8. Info, 546-6480.

sport

FIRST RUN: Community members of all ages start 2009 off on the right foot on a 5K course through downtown. See calendar spotlight. Memorial Auditorium, Burlington, registration 8:30-10:45 a.m.; kids' 1-mile fun run 10:30 a.m.; 5K run & walk 11 a.m.; award ceremony 11:45 a.m. $5-20. Info, 865-6412, info@runvermont.org.

talks

'SKIING EAST GREENLAND': Vermont husband-and-wife adventure photographers Brian Mohr and Emily Johnson show slides from an Arctic-Circle summer trip to the land of receding glaciers. Big Picture Theater & Café, Waitsfield, 7-8:30 p.m. Free; benefit raffle tickets $5. Info, 496-5434.

FRI.02

dance

ARGENTINEAN TANGO: See FRI.26, 7:30-10 p.m.

BALLROOM DANCE SOCIAL: See FRI.26, 7 p.m.

etc

BLANKET & WARM CLOTHING DRIVE: See FRI.26, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

MEDITATION GROUP: See FRI.26, 9-10 a.m.

TERTULIA LATINA: Latin-americanos and other fluent Spanish speakers converse en español. Radio Bean, Burlington, 5:30-7 p.m. Free. Info, 865-5440.

health & fitness

ZUMBA BURLINGTON: See FRI.26, 5:55-6:55 p.m.

holidays

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM: See FRI.26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

music

Also, see clubdates in Section B.

RENEWAL CHORUS: See THU.01. Town Hall, Shrewsbury, 7:30 p.m. $5-8. Info, 545-4477.

theater

'LES MISÉRABLES': See FRI.26, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

SAT.03

dance

BALLROOM DANCE SOCIAL: See SAT.27, 7 p.m.

etc

BLANKET & WARM CLOTHING DRIVE: See FRI.26, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

SEWING MACHINE INTRO: Feed dogs? Zigzag feet? First-timers learn the anatomy of sewing aids in a two-hour course, then take a test drive and plan an easy project. The Bobbin Sew Bar & Craft Lounge, Burlington, 2-4 p.m. $40 includes materials. Info, 802-862-7417, rachel@thebobbin.com.

food & drink

CHAMPLAIN ISLANDS WINTER FARMERS' MARKET: Baked items, apples, winter greens, cheeses and meats sustain shoppers in search of locally grown goods. Basement, South Hero Congregational Church, South Hero, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Info, 572-5420.

MONTPELIER WINTER FARMERS' MARKET: Root veggies, honey, fresh mesclun and more change hands at a biweekly, off-season celebration of locally grown grub. Gymnasium, Vermont College, Montpelier, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Info, 685-4360, manager@montpelierfarmersmarket.com.

RUTLAND WINTER FARMERS' MARKET: See SAT.27, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

WILLISTON OFF-SEASON FARMERS' MARKET: Shoppers peruse fresh local produce, specialty prepared foods and unique one-of-a-kind gifts in a once-monthly winter meet. National Guard Armory, Williston, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Info, 872-7728.

health & fitness

ZUMBA BURLINGTON: See FRI.26, 8:50-9:55 a.m.

holidays

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM: See FRI.26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

music

Also, see clubdates in Section B.

ESSEX CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Young voices and guest musicians close the Christmas season with a Twelfth Night concert. Chapel, St. Michael's College, Colchester, 7:30 p.m. $10. Info, 863-9161.

theater

'LES MISÉRABLES': See FRI.26, 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

THE HUNGRY RAT REVUE: A collective of emerging writers, musicians and actors gives audiences crumbs of insight to gnaw on at a monthly performance series. Langdon Street Café, Montpelier, 7:30 p.m. Info, 598-4819.

SUN.04

etc

CRAFTY CROCHET: Find your inner hooker by learning basic techniques to create scarves of all stripes. The Bobbin Sew Bar & Craft Lounge, Burlington, 2-4 p.m. $40 includes materials and instruction. Info, 862-7417, rachel@thebobbin.com.

FRENCH-ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP: See SUN.28, 4-5:30 p.m.

holidays

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM: See FRI.26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

music

Also, see clubdates in Section B.

KIRTAN SINGING: Yoga students stretch their vocal cords with call-and-response chants in Sanskrit. Evolution Physical Therapy & Yoga, Burlington, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 658-9404.

talks

WORLD HYPNOTISM DAY: Entranced listeners hear a hypnotherapist debunk myths about mesmerization as part of a global awareness effort. See calendar spotlight. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 4-5:30 p.m. Free. Info, 578-3383.

theater

'LES MISÉRABLES': See FRI.26, 2 p.m.

MON.05

etc

WORLD HYPNOTISM DAY (TALKS)
See spotlight, p.15B

BLANKET & WARM CLOTHING DRIVE: See FRI.26, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

BREASTFEEDING FOR WORKING MOTHERS: Pumps? Fridges? Nurse midwives help 9 to 5 moms master the duties of nourishing a child on company time. Fletcher Allen Hospital, Burlington, 6:30-8 p.m. $20. Info, 847-2257, lactation@vtmednet.org.

MEDITATION GROUP: See FRI.26, 9-10 a.m.

food & drink

CRASH COLLECTIVE POTLUCK: See MON.29, 7:30 p.m.

kids

FAMILY SING-ALONG: See MON.29, 10-10:30 a.m.

sport

ADULT DODGEBALL: See MON.29, 8-9 p.m.

SKI & SNOWBOARD SWAP DROP-OFF: Closet cleaners drop off new or slightly used boards, skis, boots, poles and bindings — and helmets or clothing — in advance of a January 10 trading session. Skirack, Burlington, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Free. Info, 658-3313.

words

'UNDERSTANDING POST-COLONIAL AFRICA': Readers share their takes on Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o's *The River Between* as part of a book discussion series exploring the issues behind the headlines. South Hero Community Library, South Hero, 3:30 p.m. Free. Info, 572-6209.

TUE.06

etc

BLANKET & WARM CLOTHING DRIVE: See FRI.26, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

MOVERS & SHAKERS: See TUE.30, 11 a.m.

PAUSE CAFÉ: See TUE.30, 6:30 p.m.

health & fitness

ZUMBA BURLINGTON: See FRI.26, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

ZUMBA FITNESS: See TUE.30, 7-8 p.m.

kids

SING-ALONG FUN: The dean of Vermont Public Radio's "All the Traditions" — also a reference librarian — leads a lighthearted folk session for all ages. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 11-11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 865-7216.

movies

Also, see movie theater showtimes in Section A.

SECRET MOVIE NIGHT: Indie-film buffs catch cinematic surprises of the low-budget, experimental and underground variety. (Check www.secretmovienight.com for updates.) 12 North Street, Burlington, 8 p.m. $5 suggested donation. Info, 399-5254.

sport

LAUGHTER YOGA: See TUE.30, 9-10 a.m.

SKI & SNOWBOARD SWAP DROP-OFF: See MON.05, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

talks

'UNDERSTANDING THE DOSHAS': An Ayurvedic expert in Indian medicine explains the human body's three different functioning states and how to align them through diet and lifestyle changes. Hunger Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 5-6:30 p.m. $7. Info, 223-8004, ext. 202.

words

QUEER WRITING GROUP: Poetry, fiction and other output go up for friendly workshopping and discussion at this LGBTQ-supportive scribes' circle. RU12? Community Center, Burlington, 6-8 p.m. Free. Info, 860-7812, clune@ru12.org.

WED.07

etc

BLANKET & WARM CLOTHING DRIVE: See FRI.26, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

BREASTFEEDING BASICS: Nurse midwives present a class on breastfeeding at the Williston office of Chittenden County's largest hospital. Fletcher Allen Health Care, Williston, 6:30-8 p.m. $20. Info, 847-2257, lactation@vtmednet.org.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY PHILATELIC CLUB: GE Healthcare Building, South Burlington, 6:45 p.m. Free. Info, 660-4817, [illegible]@yahoo.com.

MEDITATION GROUP: See FRI.26, 9-10 a.m.

food & drink

MAKING KIMCHI: Fans of lacto-fermentation get primers on putting up Korean cuisine's classic, spicy pickled cabbage condiment. Hunger Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 5:30-7 p.m. $12; bring an 8-oz., wide-mouth jar with a lid. Info, 223-8004, ext. 202.

kids

'MOVING & GROOVING': Two- to 5-year-olds shake it down to rock 'n' roll and world-beat music. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 11-11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 865-7216.

music

Also, see clubdates in Section B.

'THAÏS': Opera aficionados absorb the Met's high-def audiovisual broadcast of Jules Massenet's opus about a Cenobite monk who tries to convert an Egyptian courtesan. Palace Cinema 9, South Burlington, 7 p.m. $20. Info, 871-8550.

sport

SKI & SNOWBOARD SWAP DROP-OFF: See MON.05, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

talks

A CONVERSATION ON RACE: Hal Colston, the founder of the Good News Garage and the Neighbor Keepers program in Chittenden County, facilitates a discussion exploring dimensions of white privilege. Unitarian Church, Burlington, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 879-0578.

'COMPANIONS FOR THE PASSAGE': Author Maryanne Eyerson shares inspiring stories she collected for a book about witnessing a loved one's death. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 223-3338.

'IMAGING POWER': Dartmouth art historian Jane Carroll examines how political clout gets depicted on canvas. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 802-388-4095.

'NO LAUGHING MATTER': Dartmouth art history professor Angela Rosenthal takes the fun out of funny in a talk exploring how notions of race, nationality and ethnicity show up in visual jokes. St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, St. Johnsbury, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 748-8291.

'REMEMBERING SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN': History professor Sylvie Beaudreau considers the legacy of the Frenchman who 400 years ago this year first visited the lake that now bears his name. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 865-7211.

'THE POLITICS BEFORE US': *New York Times* journalist Tom Wicker sizes up the challenges facing the Obama Administration. Congregational Church, Norwich, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 649-1184.

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY: Retired CIA counterterrorism chief Haviland Smith compares containment-based approaches to terrorism with those based on preemptive unilateralism. Rutland Free Library, Rutland, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 773-1860.

theater

KICKOFF MEETING: Thespians and techies get a leg up on Lyric Theatre's spring production of *Hello, Dolly!* South Burlington High School, South Burlington, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 658-1484.

words

BOOK DISCUSSION: Readers consider Nobel prize-winning South African novelist J.M. Coetzee's *The Age of Iron*. Lincoln Library, Lincoln, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 453-2665.

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TWO 2 TANGO

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WOMEN seeking MEN

COUNTRY COWGIRL
I am a single, laid-back and easygoing person who enjoys reading, horseback riding, traveling and spending time with friends. [illegible] 28 #112194

SILLY [illegible]
I am a fun-loving girl who is 110% kind at heart. I like to do anything and everything. I live on the water during the summer, and wouldn't have it any other way. School is priority. I am looking to meet new people outside of the group I hang out with currently. P.S. I'd rather drink a Bud than Magic Hat. [illegible] 20, #112180

A SUNDAY FOOTBALL GIRL
Country girl looking for a good man. Must be kind, gentle, honest. I am an old-fashioned girl who likes mountain men, with a heart as big as the mountains he lives in. [illegible] 47 #112541

INTREPID FREEGANS UNITE!
Recently moved to the North End of Burlington and enjoying the abundant free fun all the Universe [illegible]. Decided local relationships keep me in the [illegible] dating [illegible]. SWF chef [illegible] 22 ☐ #112144

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!
I'm laid back, down to earth and athletic. Love to be outside playing any time of year. I'll be looking for someone to play with. [illegible] 44 ☐ #112134

DIAGONALLY PARKED IN A PARALLEL UNIVERSE
I'm an offbeat, bouncy, quirky waitress and single mom who loves to laugh. My life seems super busy on the outside, but if you find the time to get to know me, I'm fun to be around. I'm a social butterfly. I do like to have some quiet, though, and am looking for someone to share all of this with. [illegible] 33 ☐ #113125

GREAT CATCH 4 RIGHT MATCH
I am looking for a person to share explorations outside and in. Sense of humor a must. You must love being home as well as traveling, be open-minded and active physically and mentally to keep pace with me and perhaps push me a bit. I love the outdoors and family. Insist on honesty and try to make everything fun. [illegible] 54 ☐ #104414

SASSY, SPUNKY AND OH, YEAH...SINGLE
I am a 41 yr. woman who tries to live life to the fullest each and every day. I work to live rather than live to work. I am very active and enjoy hiking, biking, kayaking and playing golf. If I could figure out how to travel around the world and make money, I would. [illegible] 33, ☐ #110144

LOOKING FOR MY OTHER HALF!
The people closest to me would say that I am a friendly and outgoing person with a great sense of humor. I love to meet new people and try new adventures. I would like to meet someone who is secure, successful, has a great sense of humor and treats his partner as an equal. I'm a romantic at heart. [illegible], 45 ☐ #112176

BE HERE NOW
SWF Looking to add a bit more to the school work, home and [illegible]. Live in a small town [illegible] looking for exciting new people. Love the outdoors, ready to do some snowboarding. Maybe we could go together sometime? [illegible] 20 ☐ #112030

GIVE ME ONE MOMENT LOVE
What I look most for in a mate (friend or otherwise) is his heart towards the things of God. What else is he seeking? Character is the primary part. Adventurous, diehard romantic, witty and charming are just a few things that catch my eye. But to me [illegible] inherent character such as loyalty, dependability, responsibility, forward focused, trustworthiness. [illegible] 24 ☐ #112186

QUIRKY ADVENTUROUS, UNCONVENTIONAL
Some of my favorite things include, but are not limited to: reading books, sweater vests, mustaches, [illegible] ladies, [illegible] cakes, hilarious dance moves, English tea, [illegible], Festivals, Monty Python, contemporary art, over-the-top action & kung-fu movies, [illegible], skinny dipping and [illegible]. I want a [illegible] you can [illegible]. [illegible] 22, #111680

FUNNY, RANDOM AND LOVABLE
I'm a funny, outgoing girl. I'm looking for a guy who is caring, funny and smart. I like family fun and would love to find someone who enjoys the same. [illegible] 24 ☐ #111681

NORTHEAST KINGDOM SWEETHEART
I am an obedient, easygoing, down-to-earth [illegible] girl from the [illegible], living and working in the [illegible]. I workout 3 to 4 times a week at the gym. I have an amply endowed body. Great and interesting, sweet and [illegible], an overall good woman. Looking for an intelligent, sincere man for dating, friends with benefits, LTR. [illegible] 54, ☐ #110446

HAPPY, EASY GOING, LOW MAINTENANCE...
I'm an easy going person and I'm pretty happy with my simple life. I have a great job, I love Lake Champlain and Vermont. I love all kinds of music and am learning to play guitar. Someday I may even get music out of it. :) You only live once, so you might as well make the best of it! [illegible] 45 ☐ #112240

VIEW THE STARS
Down to earth, no games, loving, passionate, witty, hardworking, enjoy the outdoors, hiking, kayaking, knitting, [illegible], reading, baking, [illegible], x-country skiing, fly fishing, movies, [illegible] dogs, shy, strong, intelligent, sweet, friends [illegible] 47 ☐ #112187

FUN, KIND AND HONEST
I moved to Burlington about 3 years ago. I love hanging out with friends and family, going out to eat, [illegible] going to the bars downtown. I am looking for a guy who knows how to have fun but also can be serious when need be. Someone who is honest and looking for a long-term relationship. [illegible] 23 ☐ #112044

WOMEN seeking WOMEN

SIMPLE THINGS MAKE ME SMILE
A deck of cards can bring amazing conversations. I'm looking for someone who likes to be herself as I'm casually down to earth and am incredibly inspired by the energy that surrounds me. Find me real and true. That is all I know. I believe I have a new kindness that takes the right woman to appreciate. [illegible], 48 ☐ #100344

MUSIC NERD
I'm quirky and shy. I don't judge, I rather, I give everyone a chance. [illegible] welcome you. I like meaningless conversations that are accompanied by laughter that hurts the stomach. Sometimes I prefer deep conversations. I LOVE music. I adore [illegible]. I like walks in the park and [illegible] on sleep. I'm willing to answer questions. Hit me up. [illegible] 20, ☐ #112163

SWEET, SILLY, FUN-LOVING LOVER, FRIEND
My heart is in the past and my heart is in the future. I NEED someone who's self-efficient. A girl who wants to be loved. I'm looking for a girlie girl. NO BUTCH. If I wanted a dude, I'd date one. Not necessarily girlie, but girlie. I love all making that I get on my makeup to play in the mud! [illegible] 24 ☐ #112021

NOT THAT KIND OF DOCTOR
I'm a busy professional looking for someone who already loves something (the work, a hobby, a cause). My friends tell me that I'm hilarious, and they might be right. You could find out by meeting me. We could hit the beach, drink coffee, or stay home and just hang out. If you prefer, we could take long drives. [illegible] 43 ☐ #112046

KILLER GARDENER
I am a country gal and loves to have her hands in the dirt. I love plants, animals as well as good shoes, sledding, skating, a picnic. Future partner is a friend to hang out with, [illegible]. If "Martyknees" is still out there & single, I would love to hear. [illegible], 40 ☐ #111680

INDEPENDENT, KIND, OPEN-MINDED GAL
Looking for somebody with similar selfless attributes to join me in discovering what life has to offer. Somebody who is independent, enjoys dancing and hanging out with friends. I am slender, brown hair, hazel eyes, college grad professional. You are all kind and beautiful. [illegible] 41, ☐ #111890

MEN seeking WOMEN

FALAFELS IN MY PLACE!
Reasonably fit/attractive seeks partner-in-crime type for weekend retreats/affairs at my place. I am seeking someone who is health conscious, independent, and knows what she wants and is willing to put it out there to get it. [illegible] 48 ☐ #112200

LOOKING [illegible] LIFE COMPANY
I like to laugh. I have a good time. While I'm here, it's time to head [illegible] the snowshoes and enjoy the snow. Then came [illegible] with a good, hot cup of coffee, cold water. I enjoy being outside as much as possible, walking, fishing, kayaking, taking rides through the countryside on a motorcycle. [illegible], 54, #112144

LAKES, TREES, WARM SUMMER BREEZE
Do you like waffles, [illegible]? Let's try to figure this out together. Mysteries of the world confuse me. I would hate to see a world without humor and comedy and I love the times when I am laughing. Would you like to laugh with me? 2134 27 ☐ #112132

DANCES WITH KITCHEN
Like the 45th [illegible] VT? Home-baked bread, gardens, orchards, wildflowers, children (food vegan & local & vegan)? Offering off farmhouse, green fields, moonlight meanders, bicycling in winter. Farm animals to rescue, not food. Adventures in homesteading and foreign travel. [illegible] 40 ☐ #112144

LOVES TO SETTLE INTO RELAXATION
I love girls, and women who love to dress up. Skirts, long dresses, pretty, twirly. I don't care. Sexy legs and great sense of humor will take care of any downside. Call me. [illegible] 41 ☐ #112142

MUSIC-LOVING VERMONT DUDE
I love music: playing, listening to, and discussing. I'm into a little of almost every kind of music. I love horror movies, too. I'm looking for someone who enjoys my interests and is intellectual. Someone who lives in or near Rutland, Vermont. I'm sick of playing games with people, and am looking to meet someone real, honest and grown up. [illegible], 26 ☐ #112147

JUST OUT WANDERING AROUND
Yes, I'm from UTAH. I just recently moved to this beautiful state a little over a month ago. I'm looking to meet some new interesting fun, smart, laid-back people, who could help me have a good time! My name is Freddy and I'm a hardworking excitement seeker! [illegible], 27 ☐ #112148

GENUINE AND FUNNY
Hi. I am a genuine down-to-earth person looking for someone interested in dating and possibly LTR. I am pretty funny (as in ha-ha), intelligent, honest and sincere. [illegible] 44 ☐ #110414

SEEKS [illegible]
Seeking a wholesome woman: creative, strong, pure, considerate, stunning, someone ready [illegible] of themselves, someone who has high moral standards and desires a traditional home with a man. [illegible], 42 ☐ #112122

"SMARTY," "KILLER," "COUNTRY" CHRIST...
I came to Burlington to live and work three months, and it's just about to end. I'm a young, vibrant 21 y.o. designer with talents for creation and the company of women. I've been a gypsy for two years, traveling to spend some time with the charming women of Vermont. [illegible] 21 ☐ #112100

SARCASTIC, OPEN, EASYGOING
I'm pretty free to most ideas, willing to try anything once. Don't mind staying in or going out dancing all night. I can do either and can do them well. I need someone who can take a joke and definitely can give it back... [illegible] than a girl on a floor! [illegible] 20, ☐ #112[illegible]

CAN'T FIND MY WAY HOME
[illegible] too wild, [illegible] to hold still for too long. Always eyes open, going to some sort of [illegible]. I guess I just get bored easily. Have little fear except maybe stopping. Start many more things than I ever finish. Think the world can be better, and try to appreciate it (and people, etc.) for what it is/they are. [illegible] 48 #112084

I AM WHO I AM
My name is Steve. I'm 21 and have been living in Vermont for 6 years now. I came up from NYC to go to college, UVM, but that didn't exactly work out. Oh, well, thank god for CCV. I'm 6', 170, brown hair, brown eyes. I'm looking for someone who isn't afraid to be them. Say hi. [illegible] 21 ☐ #112084

PUT A GIRL IN IT...
Outgoing, genuine, college grad white male with a love for sports, music, motorcycling, cooking and traveling. Think [illegible] with blue eyes and brown hair, non-smoker. Looking for a female with similar interests to share travels, sports, concerts and more. Sense of humor a must. [illegible] 24 ☐ #112078

UNCOMMON VERMONTER
Looking for relationship, not willing to leave. Lonely and lost seeks caring friend. Almost a grad school grad. Led Zeppelin meets Coldplay (whatever that means; I need to look it up.) Seeking the one [illegible] cooking (but not for you). Enjoy the great outdoors. Movies, James Bond, Pulp Fiction, a girl at The Museum. [illegible], 40 ☐ #112076

OUTGOING, HAPPY GUY
Here I am, starting over, never thought I'd be here. I can't find a deeper fishing at the watering hole, time to cast a line online, ha ha. I much prefer talks & conversations face to face. I'm a guy who types 5 words a minute. Hoping to find myself a pretty girl, inside & out. My pretty girl is open minded, active, loving and has an incredible sense of humor. [illegible] 44 ☐ #112172

MEN seeking MEN

CUTE, CLEANCUT PROFESSIONAL SEARCHING FOR...
Associations, friendships and relationships! 5'9", 165 lbs. In shape, with blue eyes and brown hair. Seeking someone cute, educated and active for any of the above. What's to lose? [illegible] 40 ☐ #112096

KIND AND FUN VIDEO GAMER
I'm a big video gamer and techy. I love to play all kinds of games. I'm a member of the furry fandom. I'm a wolf fox named Axion. (If you have no idea what I'm talking about, I'll explain it to you.) Instead of going out, I love to sit in with a friend and watch a movie. [illegible], 19 ☐ #112066

HONEST, FUN, ATHLETIC GUY SAME?
Upbeat, positive guy. Love hiking and photography. Not a lazy gay man. I'm looking for someone who is willing to try and do anything at least once. I'm an honest guy looking for friends, lovers and eventually try the boyfriend thing. I'm a college grad with a pretty good job. I work and live in the Burlington area. [illegible] 47 ☐ #111414

FUNNY, LOVABLE PHILOSOPHER
I am looking for someone between 18-23. I am artistic and I love to draw and write music. I play guitar and sing in a band. I'm currently attending Johnson State. I love to laugh. I love open minded people and I tend to think from a [illegible] perspective so I give everyone a chance. I like to philosophize. I love a sense of humor. [illegible] 18 ☐ #111844

TRYING TO STAY POSITIVE
Wanted: Intelligent, open minded, masculine gay with a great sense of humor, rugged good looks & a (mostly) stable life. Me? Intelligent, funny (I think so anyway), masculine, tall (6'2"), vgl, fit with a quick wit & easy laugh. Like: Movies, cooking, kissing, nature, friends, coffee, conversation & quiet times. Also happen to be HIV pos. Your move. [illegible] 41 ☐ #111770

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WOMEN seeking

CURVY VIXEN SEEKING ??? ROMANCE <3
I'm adding to my powerful ?? vixen who can share the most amazing bubble bath including personal ?? underwater toys and lobster [illegible] for doors on end. I'm seeking the woman or couple who is running positive. Ethnicity ... is the most to treat my love to whatever she, he or they may want, emotionally, physically and sexually. Finally me ASAP. I can't wait to hear from you. <3 **snow0611 41** ☐ #112006

LABOURS, CUDDLES AND DIRTY TALK!
Winter is coming. I need to fight some cold, lonely days and nights. **lil_ghost 1984 44 m**, ☐ #111086

NEW TO SUBMISSION PUNISH ME
Always been turned on by total submission and ready to test it out. Looking for a man with experience with authoritative leather, whips, bondage, boring whatever. Can you help me learn my place and punish me when I'm naughty. If you think you can handle what I have to offer, let's play! Purely looking for fun and games. NSA. **Curiousnewlittlegirl.com, 28** ☐ #111065

NO NEED FOR LIKE
I've been in Vermont for a little over a month now and as much as I love it here, I'm looking for a little more sensual excitement. I need someone to go explore the town with. I'm from a fair amount of kink but am looking to try more. **SugarCookie, 23** ☐ #111805

VIVACIOUS VOLUPTUOUS, SUBMISSIVE CRAVES EXPERIENCE
Submissive and seeks real world Dom for S,S,C training play & possibly/eventually more. Me: "Cute and sweet with sprinkles of evil." I am creative, musical, compassionate, extremely adventurous, devoted, educated, playful. You: Intelligent, experienced, successful, actively involved in BDSM community, caring but firm, commanding. Ideally <45 y.o. male. **goddessofdesires, 41 m**, ☐ #111700

LOVE!
I'm a 19-year old college student. I am skinny with long, dark dirt, I love to get high and have sex. I'm like to find someone who loves the same. NO strings. Just fun. **gimme_love_hugginess, 19** ☐ #111527

PORN STAR GIRL
I am new to the Burlington area. I'm interested in finding an experienced woman for my boyfriend and I to play with. I am 22 and my boyfriend is 44. So contact me for a friend or maybe more :) **Britt, 22**, ☐ #111412

WANNA HANG OUT?
Hello. I'm looking for some poly community for friends and maybe play if the chemistry is right. **sance, 44** ☐ #111380

TWO ON ME
I am a 44 year-old heterosexual female with dirty blonde hair, blue eyes, & a curvy frame. Wondering if you could help me out: I constantly fantasize about a threesome that involves two men all over me. I am the focus, the only one attended? **ooyo, 40** ☐ #111192

CURIOUS IN TAG-TEAM, WANNA TRY?
Young and sexy, late 18 year old girl is not satisfied in bed. Wanting to try with two guys or more, or just one-on-one. Can get kinky but no anal. Really love tattoos and piercings. Tattoos a plus. No older than 24, though. Aiming to please and be your slave. Wanting someone to call master. Hit me up. **glsisterlake 18** ☐ #110656

LOOKING FOR 3RD OR 2ND
I'm in a casual relationship with a guy looking for a female to join in on our amorous play, but I am also interested in a girl to share for myself. I'm tall and slim with dark hair and blue eyes. I'm happy to send photos of both of us. Just me if interested. **Genevese1454 21**, ☐ #110594

NICE BUT NAUGHTY
Hi there. I've lived in Burlington all my life, but have never found that guy who I want to spend the rest of my life with. I love being outdoors. I'm going to college to become a veterinary assistant. I'm 5'2" 130 lbs. white, red hair. **gandalwadiam 18 m** #110441

BORED BORED BORED
Looking for a night of passion with that hot blonde lady. Come on, I know you're out there. **shyla 34** #110474

SHY BUT VERY CURIOUS
I have little experience and am looking to have some fun. I want someone to teach me how to give and receive pleasure. I am bi-curious and want to experiment. I love to be linked and want to try new things. Please send me a note if you are interested in helping me with my insatiable appetite. **shylabcurious, 24**, ☐ #110140

SEXY, SLIM, OPEN-MINDED
Looking for couple (man and woman?). Looking for something fun and new. Been with women before, would love to do again. Would like to make a friendship/play. I am clean and lots of fun. If you're seeking someone young and fun to fulfill your desire, write me a message and we can get to know each other. Will provide pics when asked for. **dolll14 41** ☐ #108645

VIXEN WANTS TO PLAY
I am 40 years old and am very bisexual, looking for a femme who is able to have fun in and out of bed. Must have a sense of humor. Height and weight proportionate. **flamelove, 40** ☐ #109886

START A NEW LIFE
NEEDING SOMEONE WHO LIKES ATTENTION AND WHO IS LOOKING FOR A RELATIONSHIP NOT JUST A ONE TIME FLING. CLEAN AND RESPECTABLE KIND AND GENTLE LOOKING TO START A NEW BEGINNING LOVE AND LAUGHS IN THE SAME AGE RANGE AROUND AGES POSSIBLE TRAVEL AS WELL. **CRJ1111, 40 m**, #106994

CINDERELLA WITH THE DOUBLE DS
You know I'm refusing to give up. I am voluptuous plus-sized, there's no disguising the fact, so if that's not your type, don't respond and waste my time. Okay? I'm looking for a little bit of the wild side with some domination thrown in. But admittedly I'm somewhat of a novice at things and love some help in that department. **diggitatony 44** #106753

MEN seeking

EXPERIENCED WITH DESIRE TO SHARE
Attractive professional here, in search of similar males with a wild side who want to laugh and enjoy each other's bodies and what we have to offer. Nothing too freaky, but not a prude, either! **Gently Recycled, 40** #114100

TO SOMETHING I'VE NEVER DONE
OK, I'm 40, well educated, professional, attached, and I'm looking for a new experience to do something I've never done with someone I've never been with. The anonymity of an unfamiliar idea. I want to feel it again. Willing to explore and experiment with someone who wants to do the same. Inviting, discreet, open-minded...are you looking for the same? **sowdow 41** #112391

FUN-SEEKING BIRTHDAY BOY
My birthday is approaching soon and I'm looking for a girl to have fun with. Maybe I can find a slave to fulfill my desires? Must be clean, discreet and open minded. Age, race, looks don't matter. Just be ready to party and have some fun ideas in mind. **Bdayboy 29** #114149

WHERE'S MY FUN?
I'm new to this scene. I'm sick of dealing with crazy tweens. Simply want to have a great time with whoever crosses me. I'm a freethinker, well-equipped 20s male who's ready to make the most of what God gave me. I love to give head to a lady and have the stamina to last for hours. I'll try anything once. **soond32, 20** #112173

PERFECT, YOUNG, WITH HORNY, PLEASURABLE
I'm 41 and am single partly because I wasn't really being sexually satisfied. Looking for maybe someone a little older to show me what I've been missing. I'm young, round and got "a lot" to give. **manupmann 21**, ☐ #114164

GOOD TIL THE LAST DROP
I am a down-to-earth guy with a great sense of humor. I'm really interested in hooking up with a lady who wants and knows how to please a man and in return wants to orgasm every way possible. :) I am fairly kinky and am open to trying new things. I'm not looking for a girlfriend. **Atownadream 31**, #112004

PLEASURE INC
Giving pleasure is an art & skill, something I have had plenty of training in & enjoy doing. Have you ever wanted to be worshiped as a Sex Goddess? Have you ever asked for exactly what you want? How you like to be touched? How you like to be loved? Ask & you shall receive. **pleasuregiver 48**, #112044

UNBRIDLED FURY
Safe dude looking for open-minded women with an avid disease of humor for fun times and full-blown kink in the bundle. Superfreaks only need respond. **madamamonkey 41** ☐ #112020

40-YEAR-OLD VIRGIN
I am at a very experimental stage of my life and don't want to cheat myself out of ANY pleasurable experience. Women, I want to try anything new and I love to go down. Man, looking for a someone to fulfill a long held fantasy ("large" men need not apply). **40yov 43** #112025

FUN FUN FUN
Hello out there. I am looking for NSA, a honest/ve and relax. I am big to just about anything, and willing to try anything once, twice if I like it. **happy1981 34** #111064

COMPETLING OF CONNECTION
Please respond if you are a professional woman, thoughtful and thinking, longing to connect in spirit and in body for anonymous erotic flirt-titillation and steamy encounters. Bonus for political science, poetry fiends, history buffs and 70s porn stars. **mlongen 31**, ☐ #111658

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SEXY CHARMING LOVER, HARDWEAKER, HONEST
Hello. I'm looking for a transvestite or a gay male to share fun with in discreet encounters. I'm a fun-loving guy who has been alone for over a year and would like to meet people who can teach me new things. If that's you, please let me know. Until then, ciao. **gmus01, 27** #111614

DANCER TO YOUR BEAT
Looking for someone to do whatever we want. I'm a bit lonely and just want some company, whatever you think sounds good. I'm a bit inexperienced and would like someone to show me the ropes. I'm up for anything! I love music with a good dancing beat and showing off my moves. Interested. I can't wait to hear from you. **SexyHornAndy 18** #111514

NEW TO THE AREA!
Hi there. I'm new to the area and recently single. Just looking for some fun company at the moment and to meet new people. I'm fun, nice guy, real good shape, lean, sexy, intelligent and smart blood. I'm a professional with a wife who and I look younger than my age. Please note: I am straight, like an arrow. **aossimaritament, 48 m**, ☐ #111704

SEDUCTIVE SEEKING BOTTOM
Experienced, well mannered, fit M is looking for a serious connection to a bottom or sub. If you have some experience, and would like to play on a regular basis, please get in touch. Safe, sane, consensual only. All is negotiable. This has to start with a bunch of good conversations. I welcome the chance to meet new players. **switchme 44 m** ☐ #110468

HOT GIVING CANADIAN LOVER WANTS
I'm looking to put my years of experience to use. I'm multi-orgasmic and long lasting, open-minded and willing to do most everything. Montreal has a great poly scene and just looking for the same. **daved 44 45, m**, #111884

SEEKING LOVER AND FRIEND
I am searching for that adventurous gal that enjoys great sex. I am highly sexual, sensual, passionate and at times very romantic. I am 100% D&D free and expect same. I love going down too. I can be discreet if need be or open. You have to have an open mind for sex that is truly fun. **stwet, 48** ☐ #111864

HUMOROUS SENSUAL, OPEN
Hi there. I'm a 33 y.o. professional living in Swanton but working in Burlington. Looking for women/couples who are looking for a clean, fun imaginative guy who is open, honest and funny. I'm a fun and very, very interested in meeting new people either on line or off. Write me. **Andyt, 44 m** ☐ #111362

REAL PASSIONATE MAN SATISFACTION GUARANTEED
Experienced lover always safe, 6'0 brown hair, hazel eyes. Very respectful, personal rights trustworthy, discreet, well-equipped & disease-free. I'm looking for sexual friends, your satisfaction is always guaranteed! **Tenderfoot, 44** ☐ #111655

TIPPING YOUTHS
Playing by myself is great fun, but I need someone who wants to share. Put on a show for me and I will for you. I want to try some mutual... I'm good with my hands. **playbol1 44 47** #111791

44 Y.O. MWPM SEEKS PLAYMATE
MWPM seeking local like-minded woman for companionship also in a marriage with a woman that I love, but no bond to tears. We are definitely little more than amenable at this point. I'm looking for someone to occupy my time by getting to know each other and then possibly have some fun. **DarkSeas, 44 m** #111498

FUN DANGEROUS, SEXY
I like to have a good time in all situations and try to forget the regrets. Long-term relationships scare the shit out of me. Ideally I want a married woman or similar. **drewentmhy 23** ☐ #111650

WHICH WARM WINTERS
Care to inspire a writer (well, me actually) via some erotic correspondence this fall and winter? I love the words, fantasy, flirtation and down-and-dirty sexting. Steamier than cyber, but fun. **Prospero, 27** ☐ #113673

OTHERS seeking

SEARCHING FOR A BISEXUAL MAN
My man and I are in a nontraditional relationship. He's a bisexual man and I am a straight woman. We're both physically fit and attractive, smart, charming and good company mostly. We are looking for a bisexual man who would like to play with us both. **Sallen, 41**, #114184

"DELIGHTFULLY SCRUMPTIOUS FLOWING RIVER"
Married couple, early 40s, looking to find suitable bi female/couple, 45-60, to have adult playtime with. Love foreplay and she is bi-curious and has a fantasy of being with another woman while I watch, as well as watching me be with another man or woman. Are open to new ideas in and out of the bedroom. Must be discreet. **lotsokeyorunsunst 41** ☐ #114144

COUPLE LOOKING FOR FUN!
My partner is a 6' handsome carpenter who loves to have FUN. He's a very outgoing, easy person to get along with, doesn't like liars or people that aren't straight with him, he's AWESOM! in bed and loves to try new things! We're looking for someone to try new things with us and to have fun with. If you're interested, please don't hesitate to contact us. **Pinegirl4823 16** ☐ #112144

KINKY COUPLE SEEKING THIRD
Voluptuous couple seeks third playmate (female) for sexual encounter. Must be clean and in total 20s. Kinky bisexual girlfriend wants to spice up the bedroom with another girl, less dominatrix without the whip. The man is submissive. **Openminded32 28**, #114144

NEEDS TO BE TAUGHT
I'm lonely. Just thoughts, now bring them to reality. Need good teacher, will you be that one. **weakit, 41** #112091

COUPLE 4 COUPLE
We are a couple, she's 40 and she's 44. She's bi-curious. We love watching and being watched. She likes mutual. 350 erotic, like-minded couple for same-room play for starters. **lookingO8 41** ☐ #112046

SEXY, EXPERIMENTAL COUPLE
We are an average couple looking for fun couples/women/or men. We are both under 40 looking for someone similar in age and height/weight prop. We have plenty to exchange for you to make sure both parties are attracted. Piercings are a big plus. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you might be interested. Hope to hear from you soon. **Jandi2320, 22** #111620

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PERSONALS i SPY...

JOE AT THE BAR
Hey Joe, you really should have gotten my number before you left. Maybe I'll see you around sometime. **When: Saturday, December 6, 2008. Where: Bobby Bean. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904872**

REDHEAD AT TJ MAXX
Dream man at TJ Maxx. You're phone walked by me talking to a girl. I said, maybe a little loud, "Wee." You turned. You on phone, but wherever I went, you were there. Did we catch eyes? Wish I said hello. Wanna meet? I hope you read Seven Days I Spy. I'm Rick by the way. **When: Saturday, December 13, 2008. Where: TJ Maxx, Shelburne Rd. You: Man. Me: Man. #904874**

MUY CALIENTE!
Kate at Mexicali, from the 3 senoritas who came in early on Thursday, we want you to know you are damn cute. **When: Wednesday, December 10, 2008. Where: In B-town. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904827**

THANKS
I saw a man in Lowe's about 3 weeks ago when I needed some keys made. I asked if I could get a Timberland key made. It turned out that it was not able to. Just wanted to say that you had made my day that day just by talking to me. You have no idea of what it meant to me. **When: Wednesday, November 19, 2008. Where: Lowe's. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904900**

WASSUP
It has been too long since we have had beers and bong. I miss you, brother. **When: Friday, December 12, 2008. Where: I don't. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904817**

42/4 ALEX'S BIRTHDAY PARTY
You were giving me LOL threesomes, took me to your place for some yerba mate. Can't seem to recall where you live. I got your info in my MoBox, see mtbs. Care to have more fun times? **When: Monday, December 8, 2008. Where: 3 Needs. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904883**

COSTCO SUPPORT GROUP?
To the beautiful redhead who made off with a mint post-head-of palm. I propose our next food tasting be at a table with a waiter. I downgrade to drink grabbing de perfectly porn style, but at the way I'd love to hear your story. What say you? **When: Wednesday, December 10, 2008. Where: Costco's [illegible] checkout. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904812**

DON'T FORGET ME!
We met on Halloween, played phone tag, met up rather late one Friday night. We're both delivery and the conversation was great. We friended on web. I didn't go home 'til morning. Then over Thanksgiving my phone died and I lost my contacts list. Do you still have my number? Hoping you'll call. **When: Friday, November 14, 2008. Where: your place. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904901**

THREE RINGS AND A KISS
Ten days later I can still feel your lips on my skin and feel your arms around me. Is there any truth to the whispers on the wind? I would love to know. **When: Tuesday, December 9, 2008. Where: The Northeast Kingdom. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904880**

WHERE IS MY WREATH?
I thought that finding the motherlord at [illegible] would get me a wreath delivered with a happy ending. That's the way it has always been before. Is still the same deal. **When: Saturday, October 11, 2008. Where: GML. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904854**

HEALTHY LIVING CARHARTTS WEDNESDAY NIGHT
You were shopping at Healthy Living Wednesday night wearing an orange hat and Carhartts. Riding your bike in the snow, too. I was wearing running tights, black down jacket and red hat. Both of us were with friends/roommates? I thought you looked fun. Want to go having a get coffee? **When: Wednesday, December 10, 2008. Where: Healthy Living. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904957**

MIRABELLE'S MILF
On 12/10 I spied an absolutely gorgeous woman who got coffee and pastries from me at Mirabelle's. We had a great conversation and a great connection, and you seriously made my day. You know who I am I met... **When: Wednesday, December 10, 2008. Where: Mirabelle's Cafe. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904854**

DARK STAR ORCHESTRA TUESDAY NIGHT
Kate from Burlington/White River Jct. I have been thinking of you for about four years and until recently have not been free to ask you out. I tried to talk with you but couldn't really catch up with you. You still have my attention after all this time. Hope to hear from you. Michael **When: Tuesday, December 2, 2008. Where: Higher Ground. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904855**

SELECT DESIGN XMAS PARTY
You: black top w/tan boots and an ex tattoo. Me: green hat and blue Carhartt T-shirt. You caught me staring at you when we were in line to get a beer. I told you how gorgeous you were and you broke my heart when you told me you had a boyfriend who works there. Grab a beer sometime anyway. **When: Friday, December 5, 2008. Where: Select Design Christmas Party. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904854**

RE: SEXYPINBALLGIRL
What does you very much [illegible] because there are several of us at the Needs. **When: Wednesday, December 10, 2008. Where: the Needs. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904853**

KAC
Yin & yang. Sliced fruit, silk scarves, driving me nuts; you pick the place. There are a lot of things that we haven't even done yet, baby. **When: Friday, December 12, 2008. Where: in bed. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904852**

YOU. ME. BOTH SHY
You: tall, quiet man who drives a company van that works next to my place of employment. Me: a shy [illegible] worker who wonders if you're interested or just shy as well. I see you smile at me from time to time and the world stops for those brief moments. I have just the good for you, me and some coffee/conversation sometime. **When: Monday, December 8, 2008. Where: Colchester. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904856**

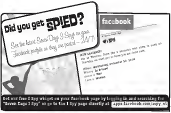
BAGELS PLUS
What a cutie. Saw you again on Sunday, 12/7. You: cute blonde with kids. Me: comfy equipment guy. Catch a game, dinner, drink, coffee. I will [illegible]. **When: Sunday, December 7, 2008. Where: Williston. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904848**

NAUGHTY OR NICE?
Dear Sugar Lips: You may be a naughty girl, but you are always on the TOP of my nice list. XOXOS Sexkitten. WARM Love and morning showers. Ms. Claus. **When: Saturday, December 6, 2008. Where: Headlights by the Lake. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #904847**

HOLLY
I drove that to you some because I know haven't people calling you. I miss seeing you around. I wish you weren't so shy and I wasn't so aloof. Sincerely, that "grey cat" little. **When: Sunday, December 7, 2008. Where: [illegible]. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904846**

RADIATOR AT THE DAILY PLANET
Raspberry brown and the seat near the radiator. I love staring at you until you flush. Thank you for yet another wonderful night. **When: Monday, December 8, 2008. Where: The Daily Planet. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #904845**

KALE: YOU ARE SO F*CKING HOT!
I can't wait to see you again. Love that tattoo and so much more. You are hot, nice and have a great personality as well. Let's get together again soon. **When: Saturday, December 6, 2008. Where: Burlington. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904844**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MUY CALIENTE!
Kate at Mexicali. From the 3 senoritas who came in early on Thursday, we want you to know you are damn cute.
When: Wednesday, December 10, 2008
Where: In B-town
I saw a: Man
I am a: Woman

Get our free I Spy widget on your facebook page by logging in and searching for "Seven Days I Spy" or go to the I Spy page directly at apps.facebook.com/ispy_vt

ACROSS THE WINDOW AT UNCOMMON GROUNDS
You were seated back in your chair across the entrance way at Uncommon Grounds on Monday around three o'clock. I don't recall what you were wearing, however I do remember your smile as you left. I had red sunglasses and I was with two of my ladies. You were with a young woman and had a bowl with you. **When: Monday, December 8, 2008. Where: Uncommon Grounds. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904845**

MY WINTER "[illegible]" BEE
I'm happy to see that you're finally starting to wear seasonably appropriate clothing outside. But don't get too warm, I'm still looking forward to cuddling with you (and making ridiculous sound effects) after a long day of work. **When: Monday, December 8, 2008. Where: Under a heap of blankets. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904842**

GORGEOUS GREEK
The first time I saw you, you were on a gyro, but each time since you've gotten more and more beautiful. Please come back to the deli and let me make you a hot sandwich delight. For you baby, I'll even throw in some extra meat. I hope I can see you again, you've been running through my mind for days. **When: Friday, October 31, 2008. Where: The [illegible] St. Deli. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #904844**

STILL STARRY-EYED
You: wearing tan-and-orange roller skates and a matching hat. Me: wearing a [illegible] smile and feeling like the luckiest dame in the world. Thanks for keeping my head clear, feeding me mountain dew and [illegible] awesome. Wanna go snowboarding with me this weekend? And one more thing: AAAHHHaaahhhAAAHHH. **When: Sunday, December 7, 2008. Where: The Sun Spot. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904840**

WANNA SPOON?
Snow so soon in your arms again. How about, I don't know, 10 days from now? Come walk with me through the Vermont snow. I wanna be your big and little spoon, because you are everything to me. See you soon mootee. **When: Thursday, December 18, 2008. Where: Lying next to me. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #904838**

BARNES & NOBLE...ATTRACTIVE BRUNETTE
You were wearing a pink sweater and a white jacket. I found myself attracted by you as you sat and read The Alchemist, an excellent story and I think we all have a bit of Santiago in us. I hope you enjoy it. [illegible] Coffee. **When: Saturday, December 6, 2008. Where: Barnes & Noble South Burlington. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904837**

BURLINGTON COMMUNITY CHOIR ROCKS HOUSE
To all the talented members of the Burlington Community Choir and Queen City Larks, you put on one heck of a concert. Great job and I can't wait to hear you in the spring. **When: Friday, December 5, 2008. Where: First Congregational Church. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #904834**

SWEEETTTTTTT
You: a [illegible] w/tight, black pants w/ beautiful brown eyes at Marshall's. Me: a young gentleman in the line over with a friend. We made some serious eye contact. If you read, contact back. I'd love to take you out for some chocolate and coffee sometime. **When: Saturday, December 6, 2008. Where: Marshall's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904833**

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mistress maeve
YOUR GUIDE TO LOVE + LUST

Dear Readers,

I don't know about you, but I find most New Year's resolutions to be boring and totally uninventive. So whether you'll be ringing in the new year single or as part of a couple, I challenge you to make only resolutions that will bring you pleasure of the carnal variety. To get you thinking in the right direction, I'll make a few suggestions — some naughty, some nice.

1. Read erotic fiction about something you think you'd never try.
Just because you fantasize about having group sex, being spanked, or getting busy while dressed up like a team mascot doesn't mean you want it in real life. To broaden your fantasy horizons, pick up some "taboo" erotic fiction. I suggest *Spanked: Red-Cheeked Erotica*, *Crossdressing: Erotic Stories* and *The Mile High Sex Club: Plane Sex Stories*, all edited by Rachel Kramer Bussel.

2. Rediscover making out.
Kissing is among the most erotic activities, if you allow it to be. The next time you slide lips with someone, take a minute — or an hour — to really enjoy it.

3. Spend time naked.
Shedding our layers and getting to know ourselves better both physically and mentally makes us better people and partners. So crank up the heat, close the blinds, and lose the clothes. If you have a significant other, consider resolving to share "naked dates."

4. Try girl-on-guy strap-on sex.
This may exclude those of you who don't participate in girl-on-guy action, but I'm sure you'll support your bi and hetero brothers and sisters in this resolution. Think about it: No matter how equal and respectful men and women are to each other, the woman is always getting "screwed." Change things up in 2009 — get a strap-on, a g-spot dildo and some lube and mix up the gender roles. Trust me, it'll be good for both of you.

5. Practice safer sex.
Hopefully you're already protecting yourself, but it never hurts to renew this resolution. Make 2009 happy and healthy.

Happy New Year,

mm

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FREE WHEELIN BY BOB KILPATRICK

The Top 10 Auto List for 2008

This year has been one for the record books. Our economy imploded to a degree not seen since the Great Depression and a historic election delivered an inspiring African American to the White House. If you're one to observe the dualities of life, there's certainly a contrast in negative and positive.

After the financial markets, the auto industry became the most battered sector of the economy. First, record-high gas prices pulled the plug on sales of trucks and SUVs. This impacted already ailing American automakers far more than their foreign competitors. Then, the recession took an even bigger bite. Ouch. At least gas prices have dropped again.

The following fun facts and figures from auto land provide a snapshot of this unique and dramatic year. With that, I wish you all the best in the coming one.

Drop in Sales, Nov. 2007 to Nov. 2008
1. Chrysler — 47%
2. Volvo — 46.5%
3. Nissan — 42%
4. GM — 41.3%
5. Acura — 38.9%
6. Hyundai — 38.6%
7. Lexus — 34.7%
8. Toyota — 33.9%
9. Mazda — 31.3%
10. Honda — 30.6%
11. Ford — 30% (OK, this is more than 10, but given what's going on in Detroit, it seems relevant to include Ford.)

Bestselling Cars
1. Ford F Series
2. Chevrolet Silverado
3. Toyota Camry
4. Honda Civic
5. Honda Accord
6. Toyota Corolla/Matrix
7. Nissan Altima
8. Chevrolet Impala
9. Dodge Ram
10. Ford Focus

2009 FORD F-150

Worst Selling Cars
1. Hyundai Entourage
2. Mitsubishi Endeavor
3. Hummer H2
4. Chrysler Pacifica
5. Nissan Armada
6. Hummer H3
7. Dodge Durango
8. GMC Envoy
9. Jeep Commander
10. Toyota FJ Cruiser

Least Expensive Cars
1. Hyundai Accent CS — $9970
2. Nissan Versa Sedan — $9990
3. Kia Rio — $11,495
4. Toyota Yaris — $12,205
5. smart fortwo — $11,590
6. Chevrolet Aveo5 — $12,625
7. Suzuki SX4 Sedan — $13,299
8. Kia Spectra — $13,550
9. Hyundai Elantra GLS — $14,120
10. Honda Fit — $14,550

2007 SMART FORTWO

Most Expensive Cars
1. Bugatti Veyron — $1,192,057
2. Pagani Zonda C12 F — $667,321
3. SSC Ultimate Aero — $654,400
4. LeBlanc Mirabeau — $645,044
5. Saleen S7 — $545,568
6. Koenigsegg CCX — $545,568
7. Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren — $457,250
8. Porsche Carrera GT — $440,000
9. Maybach 62 — $385,250
10. Maybach 57 S — $367,000

Cars With Lowest Ownership Costs
1. Honda Fit
2. Chevrolet Aveo
3. Hyundai Accent
4. Toyota Yaris
5. Nissan Versa
6. Scion xB
7. Pontiac Vibe
8. Toyota Corolla
9. Kia Rio
10. Suzuki SX4

2009 HONDA FIT

Cars With Highest Ownership Costs
1. Mercedes-Benz CL class
2. Mercedes-Benz S class
3. Mercedes-Benz SL class
4. Audi R8
5. BMW Alpina B7
6. BMW M6
7. BMW M5
8. Audi S8
9. Mercedes-Benz G class
10. Audi A8

2009 AUDI S8

Least Expensive Repairs
1. (tie) Suzuki SX4
1. (tie) Honda Element
2. Nissan Versa
3. Hyundai Accent
4. Kia Sedona
5. Honda Pilot
6. Hyundai Veracruz
7. Suzuki XL7
8. Honda CR-V
9. Mazda Tribute

Most Fuel Efficient Vehicles (City/Highway)
1. Toyota Prius Hybrid (48/45)
2. Honda Civic Hybrid (40/45)
3. Nissan Altima Hybrid (35/33)
4. smart fortwo (33/41)
5. Toyota Camry Hybrid (33/34)
6. Ford Escape Hybrid (34/31)
7. Mazda Tribute Hybrid (34/31)
8. Mercury Mariner Hybrid (34/31)
9. Volkswagen Jetta (30/41)
10. Toyota Yaris (29/36)

Biggest Gas Guzzlers (City/Highway)
1. Lamborghini Murcielago (8/13)
2. Bentley Azure (9/15)
3. Bentley Brooklands (10/14)
4. Bentley Continental GT (10/17)
5. Bentley Arnage (10/14)
6. Ferrari 612 Scaglietti (9/16)
7. Ferrari 599 GTB Fiorano (11/15)
8. Ferrari F430 (11/16)
9. Aston Martin DBS Coupe (11/17)
10. BMW M5 (11/17)

Sources: www.forbes.com, www.bankrate.com, www.Edmunds.com, www.theagenius.org

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Classes: 50 words for $18/1 weeks. $66 for 4 weeks

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Homeworks: 40 words + photo: $30. Display ads: $22.95/col. inch.

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1996 VW JETTA ONLY 118K. Manual transmission. Black, runs great. Sale $5885. Info: E3 Barrette and Sons, Inc., 802-864-3327, www.barrettesford.com

1996 VOLVO 850 WAGON 5-spd., A/C, CC, power W/L, green, 167K, $3857. Info: Greensboro Garage, 802-533-2221, www.greensborogarage.com

2001 CHEVY PRIZM, SUNROOF Beige, 4 dr sedan w/ cruise control, ABS, CD, tow hitch. Meticulously maintained. Reliable & fun. 37-40 mpg. $5700. 802-274-1737.

2001 SATURN SL2, W/ SNOWS 4 new snow tires, good to snow, good condition, great looking car, black w/ dark gray interior, 98K, auto. $3800. Info: yuglia@comcast.net.

2005 GMC SAFARI AWD Hard to find. Minivan. Sale 93,162 miles, great mod tires, well maintained. Check it out today. $8495. Info: E3 Barrette and Sons, Inc., 802-863-5527, www.barrettesford.com

2003 SUBARU FORESTER XS A/T, A/C, CD, CC, power W/L, Black, 112K. $9900. Info: Greensboro Garage, 802-533-2221, www.greensborogarage.com

2005 SUBARU IMPREZA RS Sedan, A/T, A/C, CD, CC, power W/L, dark blue, 59K, $12,400. Info: Greensboro Garage, 802-533-2221, www.greensborogarage.com

2007 SUZUKI SX 4 4-dr. hatchback, 5-spd., A/C, CD, power W/L, black, 28K, $12,900. Info: Greensboro Garage, 802-533-2221, www.greensborogarage.com

2008 TOYOTA COROLLA CE 4 dr sedan, A/T, A/C, CD, black, 8K, $16,450. Info: Greensboro Garage, 802-533-2221, www.greensborogarage.com

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BURLINGTON 157 Elmwood Ave. Avail. Jan. 1. 2 BR upstairs, 5/4 BA, parking, close to downtown. No pets. $850/mo + utils. Info: Coburn & Feeley, 802-864-5200-220.

BURLINGTON Unfurnished 2 BR, Summit St., ground floor, gas heat, off street parking. $900/mo. + sec., utils. Info: 802-862-4288

BURLINGTON Newly renovated, large 1 BR ground floor duplex, plus large basement, HDWD, yard, porch, off street parking. $750/mo. + utils. Info: 802-770-0555

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BURLINGTON TOWNHOUSE 2-BR, Old North End, updated appliances, lighting, carpets, off street parking, full basement, avail. Immed. $1250/mo. + utils. Info: HUSMAKE 802-864-8888

BURLINGTON FIVE SISTERS Lg. 1 BR w/ new kitchen, BA & HDWD. Lots of light & off street parking. $1050/mo. + utils. Info: Sue, 802-881-3760

COLCHESTER 521 Porters Point, avail. now. 5 BR house, newly remodeled, 1.5 BA, HDWD floors, porch, parking, lg yard, pets considered. $1350/mo. + utils. Info: Coburn & Feeley, 802-864-5200-228

COLCHESTER/MALLETTS BAY Fully restored vintage cottage w/ views of Malletts Bay. Master BR walk-in closet. French doors to tree enclosed yard. Oil heat + lg steel gas fireplace faced in stone. W/D in small ext. 2 BR, screened porch, storage shed, beach rights, boat mooring. 12 mins. to Burlington. Avail. Dec. 1. $1300/mo. + utils. Damage deposit refs. req. Info: 802-406-5029, peggypotter@davis@mac.com

DOWNTOWN BURLINGTON 5 BR, 1 BA home w/ parking, laundry & yard. Avail. June 1. Very nice condition, lease & dep. req. $1600/mo. + utils. Info: 802-864-1858.

BLUE SPRUCE STUDIO Brand new, spacious, bright, full kitchen w/ breakfast bar, gas fireplace, ample storage. Views a cross-country skiing, mountain biking. $775/mo. incl. utils. & laundry. Pets considered. Info: 802-482-4544

NEW HAVEN ENERGY EFFICIENT 3 years new 3600 sq. ft. 4 star energy rated 1 BR. W/D hookup, lg closets, lg kitchen, open living area. Very clean & light. 5 min Middlebury, 10 min. Vergennes. Incl. plowing/mowing. $800/mo. + util. Info: Dolores Barrie, 802-455-2665

S. BURLINGTON 75 Horizon Heights avail. now 2-BR condo upstairs, HDWD floors, W/D in building, parking, community pool & tennis court OK. $1000/mo. + utils. Info: Coburn & Feeley, 802-864-5200-228

SO. BURLINGTON CONDO Beautifully renovated Twin Oaks condo, great neighborhood, 2-BR upstairs unit, laundry, HDWD floors, all appliances, W/D, parking. Start w/ 6 mo. lease. $1200/mo. + utils. Info: 802-248-2540, mgorvale.2008@yahoo.com

SUGARBUSH CONDO 1-BR furnished, hot tub, 5 miles from lifts, restaurant/bar on premises. $850/mo. Call anytime. Info: 802-454-5458

UNDERHILL 1 BR APT FEB. 1 Private country location, mountain view, high ceiling, HDWD, full BA, DW, deck & storage space. No dogs. Sec. dep. & refs. req. $725/mo. + utils. Info: 802-777-3097

WINOOSKI LG. 2+BR, 2 BA Nice, in owner occupied duplex. Quiet neighborhood, HDWD floors, lg yard, private driveway, off-street parking. W/D, plowing, water & rubbish incl. Heat & electricity not incl. $1150/mo. + dep., refs. Info: 802-654-5450

WILLISTON COUNTRY HOME Charming 2 BR, great country and plenty of land, freshly painted. FR w/ working Franklin stove, located near x-country ski/bike trails. $850/mo. + dep./first. Lv. msg. Info: 802-863-2314

www.getahome.org

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A WINOOSKI [illegible]

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www.cascadesvt.com 802.654.7444

WINOOSKI 14 West St. lg 3-BA sunny renovated, heritage porch, full BA, storage, parking, cheap utils., small yard. $1300/mo. 89 Mallett's Bay Ave., lg sunny 1 BR, full BA. $700/mo. Parking. Avail. now. Info: Cassidy Pomerleau, 802-952-2487

WINOOSKI 2-BR ALLEN ST Incl. porch, parking. No dogs. Avail. now. $775/mo. Neville Companies, Inc. 802-660-5481 x1001, www.nevilleco.com

WINOOSKI 3 4 BA Quiet neighborhood on bus line, fenced yard, HDWD, W/D in basement, off street parking. Avail. Jan. 1. Sec. dep. req. NS/pets. $1600/mo. Info: 802-434-7678

for sale »

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www.sevendaysvt.com

homeworks

your savvy guide to local real estate

PERFECT LOCATION

2 bedroom, 1.5 bath Colchester Condo tucked away on quiet wooded lot, yet convenient to many marinas, boat launch and Malletts Bay Marina. Condo also features ample closet space, a full, dry unfinished basement and some attic storage above garage. $185,000

Call Nancy Desany
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802-846-9548
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AMAZING HOME

3 bedroom, 2.5 bath Jericho Colonial with so much to offer! The kitchen has maple cabinets, granite counters and custom tile backsplash. Fabulous mudroom, grand two-story entry, 9' ceilings on 1st floor and a stunning screened porch on pillars. **$449,900.**

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Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman Realty
802-846-9548
www.VermontTrademarkHomes.com

REMEMBER THIS SOUTH BURLINGTON ONE

Ranch style home boasts hardwood floors, galley style kitchen, partially finished basement, cedar tree lined backyard plus enclosed porch... extras that will entice most any home buyer. Add 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and central air for when summer arrives. **$245,900.**

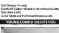
Call Nancy Desany
Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman Realty
802-846-9548
www.VermontTrademarkHomes.com

BEAUTY, WARMTH & VALUE

Welcome to the spacious Williston Townhouse with 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, gas fireplace in vaulted ceiling living room. Dining room, family room and eat-in kitchen on 1st level. **$269,900**

Call Mary Jordan
Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman Realty
802-846-9533
www.HickokandBoardman.com

YOUNG CONDO AWAITS YOU



Popular Highland Village Condo in Essex Junction, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, first floor unit, over 1100 sq. ft., private deck, association includes heat and A/C, secure underground parking, great location on 6 acres! **$175,000.**

Call Geri Reilly
Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman Realty
802-862-6677
www.buyvtrealestate.com

STOP PAYING RENT

And enjoy the advantages of being a homeowner. The 2 bedroom 1 bath 3rd floor unit features an updated kitchen with beautiful ceramic tiled floors & carpeted living room, lots of closets throughout, a storage shed and more! Minutes to I-89 and Burlington. **$109,250.**

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Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman Realty
802-862-6677
www.buyvtrealestate.com

LOYAL TO HISTORY

The charming 3 bedroom 2 bath old world home features original woodwork throughout, yet modern conveniences too! Recent updates include kitchen, 1st floor bath and laundry room plus newer carpet upstairs. Fenced yard, garage, walk to downtown. **$214,900.**

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802-862-6677
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IT'S A HOUSE! IT'S A CONDO!

Great opportunity to own your own home and not share the common maintenance with others. Super Winooski Heights location, easy access to the Interstate but walkable to downtown. Tons of off street parking in your private drive. Over 1200 sf of living. **$215,000**

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Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman Realty
802-846-9525
www.ChrisvonTrapp.com

CURE FOR THE COOKIE CUTTER CONDO

These original 1930 units have been refurbished but not re-muddled. Anything with charm was restored and what about those hardwood floors!! The covered entry porch is awesome, and the large kitchen has new appliances and washer/dryer hookups!! **$143,000 & $154,000**

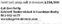
Call Chris von Trapp
Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman Realty
802-846-9525
www.ChrisvonTrapp.com

TWIN OAKS — SOUTH BURLINGTON

Employment, shopping, transportation and recreation are all just minutes away from this first floor, two bedroom end unit in South Burlington. For photos and info go to: www.First-Floor-End-Unit.com **$156,500.**

Call George Gamache
Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman Realty
802-846-9507
www.GeorgeGamache.com

BURLINGTON — REDROCKS



This two bedroom condominium is situated on the first floor and has spacious living areas including a large living room and galley kitchen open to the dining area. Excellent location close to parks, shopping and highways. www.FirstFloorCondo.com **$224,900.**

Call George Gamache
Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman Realty
802-846-9507
www.GeorgeGamache.com

BURLINGTON — NEW NORTH END

This Ranch style home is your proverbial "diamond in the rough." Situated on Killarney Drive in Burlington, it offers the ideal opportunity to upgrade and improve without fear of over-improving. Call today to get started. For photos & info go to: www.60KillarneyDrive.com **$249,900**

Call George Gamache
Coldwell Banker Hickok & Boardman Realty
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for rent

For Sale

2-BR GOLF-COURSE CONDO 2-BR, 1.5-BA, 1 level, full basement, detached garage, wood-burning fireplace, lots of windows & storage space. See online ad for more pics. $164,500. Info: 802-922-9706, countryclubcondo@yahoo.com.

Housemates

BURLINGTON Quiet, sunny location in 10-block radius of UVM/downtown/Intervale. Join 4 other mature adults in tobacco-free zone, respectful lifestyle. Share gas heat, solar green housing & earnest efforts at urban sustainability. W/D incl. No pets. $475/mo. + 1/5 utils. Call between 4-8 p.m. Info: 802-658-4396.

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Greentree

HOUSEMATE WANTED To share small 4-BR house located between UVM & St. Mike's, close to nature trail, off-street parking, W/D. $425/mo. + dep. 1/5 utils. 802-658-0302, 802-938-2834. Info: Paul.

HOUSEMATE WANTED 2-BR furnished apt. in Treetop Condominiums, S. Burlington. Internet, W/D, off-street parking, woodstove. $700/mo. +1/2 utils. Avail. Jan. 11 - June 11. Info: Melissa Weinberger 802-222-1984.

LAID-BACK CREATIVE TYPES Wanted for our funky downtown apt. Musicians, painters, writers, philosophers, etc. Small room avail. Jan. 1 or sooner for $395/mo. +dep. Info: 802-825-2459.

MONKTON FARMHOUSE Large rooms, W/D, master BA, cathedral ceilings, 20 acres. 15 miles to Kennedy Dr. Barn, garden space, etc. Amenities/utils incl. Horses & pets OK. $450/mo. Info: 802-453-3457.

PEACEFUL JERICHO HOME Share 3-BR home in the country. Walk-out trails for trekking, winter sports, W/D, high-speed Internet, fireplace, pool table, pool, peace & quiet. $500/mo. total. Info: 802-999-1245, tench561@aol.com.

ROOM IN WINOOSKI HOME Quiet 3-BR home. On bus route. Off-street parking. No pets, please. $500/mo. + utils. Avail. Jan. 15. Info: Maria, 802-518-0403.

S. BURLINGTON ROOM TO RENT Beautiful, quiet setting. Furnished BR w/ private BA, W/D, central air, parking, on bus line. Seeking professional, nonsmoking, quiet individual who will appreciate my privacy. $650/mo. Info: 802-999-2144.

SEEKING HOUSEMATE Green-minded, peaceful, quiet, Buddhist old house. 1 minute walk to beach, bike path. Parking, W/D, gas heat & stove. Avail. now. $550/mo. + 1/2 utils. Info: 802-864-2899.

SUNNY BURLINGTON CONDO Looking for NS, cat-loving professional to let sunny BR in 2-BR condo. Located near Oakledge, convenient to downtown. $475/mo. Call 865-2447 or 865-4972, email psherbs@hotmail.com.

Office/ Commercial

$270 SHARED STUDIO SPACE Share space with a professional music teacher. Quiet Church St. location, lots of light, great view of City Hall park. Flexible time sharing. Utils. incl. Info: Timothy [illegible], 802-922-5044.

LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH Clinician sought to join newly established office in renovated Church St. townhouse. Full & part time positions. Incl. evening hrs. avail. Flexible rent & terms. Info: Jo-Ann, 802-865-9450.

RESTAURANT FOR SALE Turnkey restaurant in S. Burlington. 9 years in business & still growing. Loyal following, proven sales growth. Great location. Well-known name. [illegible] 802-865-2917 [illegible]

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802-846-9533
www.EdieHomes.com

BURLINGTON

Conveniently located in the heart of Burlington. This one bedroom condo is a great opportunity for yourself or as an investment in the Historic Vermont House. Association fee includes heat and hot water. Pets are allowed. Amazing location at an amazing price.
$129 900
Call Robbi Handy Holmes
Century 21 Jack Associates
802-655-9803 ext.2120
robbihandyholmes@c21jack.com

MONKTON

Hillside ranch with finished lower level. This 3 bedroom home has new windows and floors, fresh paint, and new carpet and tile flooring. Easterly views of Camel's Hump. Metal roof and vinyl siding for low maintenance. **$237,500.**

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www.vermontgreentree.com

MONKTON

Cape style house TO BE BUILT on 10 private acres, yet only a short walk to town elementary school and recreation fields. Second floor is rough plumbed and wired. Full basement with energy efficient heating system. Other plans available. **$267,300**

Call Greentree Real Estate
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MONKTON

WOW! 3 bedroom 1½ bath ranch home on 5 acres. Large kitchen, great dining room with built-in shelves, double windows and plenty of room. Sun porch/mudroom entry and some finished space in basement. ONLY **$183 400**

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www.vermontgreentree.com

STARKSBORO

1 level living! 3 bedroom ranch home. Hardwood floors, new carpet, fresh paint & a new roof. Large kitchen with ample cabinet space opens to dining area with deck. Views of rolling hills on 1 pleasantly landscaped acre. **$218,000**

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Redstone - www.thehindslofts.com
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services

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IN HOME CHILDCARE NEEDED For 5 year-old in Charlotte (20 min. from Burlington). January-May (and beyond if possible). 3 weekday afternoons 12:30-6 p.m. Looking for experienced, active, creative, reliable individual (a college student or older) please. Teacher or daycare experience strongly preferred; direct care experience with 5 year-olds strongly preferred. Childcare refs required. Nice family. Will help w/ gas money. Please send resume to Laura. Thanks. LCIsearch@aol.com.

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A beautiful 2-BR (925 sq ft) w/ HDWD floors, basement space, back porch, off-street parking, walk everywhere from here! Located at 115 N. Champlain St. VHFA eligible. Reduced to $139,000. Call 802-238-3803

NORTH END CONDO

This is an efficient 2-BR flat. New windows, gas heat & hot water. Enclosed rear porch overlooks backyard area. Walk everywhere from this downtown location. Small association, off-street parking. VHFA eligible. Priced to sell at $99,900. Why rent when you can own? Call 802-238-9875

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Instruction

DRUM LESSONS Have fun while achieving your goals as a drummer. Experienced professional & active drummer seeks students of all ages, styles & abilities for private instruction. Study at your convenience in my Burlington studio or in your own practice space. I offer a custom curriculum, flexible scheduling & the best rates around. Info: steve@stevehadeka.com

GUITAR INSTRUCTION Berklee grad w/25 years teaching experience offers lessons in guitar, music theory & ear training. Individualized, step-by-step approach. All ages/styles/levels. Info: Belford Guitar Studio, Rick Belford, 802-864-7195, rickb@vermontel.net, www.rickbelford.com.

SEVEN DAYS Pet memorials

Has your pet passed? Honor his/her life with a public memorial right here

Unabridged pet memorials online at 7dspot.com [click on pet memorials]
Contact Ashley 864-5684 ashley@sevendaysvt.com for more info

Jacques Le Chat

JACQUES Passed August 2006

Jacques walked into our lives nearly three years ago, on a cold December night in 2005. He was an all-black stray with a gentle, affable attitude and a purr like a motorboat. Sudden kidney failure got him nine months later: the result of a life on the streets, the vet said. Here's to your memory, mon ami.

Crazy Golden Girl

NIKKI April 1993 - July 2008

Nikki girl, what a run you had! 15 years is a long time. We used to joke that you would probably outlive Yukon despite all your health issues, and sure enough you did. Your needy personality was endearing and now we realize it's because you had to play second fiddle to Yukon's alpha, but we loved you just the same. You set a great example for Obi while you were here. It's a shame you only knew him for 3 weeks. The day you left, we knew it was truly your time to go. Godspeed.

Hoover

HOOVER September 1996 - November 2007

Cut the leash that holds
me here, dear friend, and
let me run once more a
strong and steady dog,
my pain and struggle
done.

(K. Cloutier)

GUITAR SCHOOL OF VERMONT "Not your usual music instruction." Attention to multiple teaching fundamentals: theory, technique, composition. Teaching Guitarists, Growing Musicians. 802-655-5800, www.guitarschoolofvermont.com.

GUITAR INSTRUCTION All styles/levels. Emphasis on developing strong technique, thorough musicianship, personal style. Paul Asbell (Unknown Blues Band, Kilimanjaro, UVM & Middlebury College Faculty). Info 862-7696 www.paulasbell.com.

TROMBONE TRUMPET LESSONS Eastman School of Music graduate, trumpet, trombone, horn, tuba, piano, composition. "More than a music teacher." See website, click the link for Musical Gifts too! Info: Octavemusic, Stuart Cartee, 802-881-8524, www.octavemusic.net.

classes

burlington city arts

BOOK ARTS GUILD: 1st Wednesday of each month, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Burlington. Cost: $5 suggested donation. *The Book Arts Guild, organized in January 2005, seeks to encourage and educate its members and the public through workshops, exhibits, fieldtrips and guest speakers. Membership is open to anyone with enthusiasm for the book arts. To sign up for the Book Arts Guild "MeetUp" contact Nancy Stone at* [illegible]@aol.com.

DESIGN ILLUSTRATION: Jan 26 - Mar 2, 6:30-8:30 p.m. weekly on Monday. Location: 135 Church St./Burlington. Cost: $128 nonmembers, $115.20 BCA members. *Create your own graphic story, novella, or illustrated book. Students will learn a variety of drawing, illustrative and narrative techniques and will be encouraged to use many mediums. Learn how to work from initial storyboard sketches, incorporate the figure in dynamic poses, and how to use dramatic light/shade.*

DRAWING AND PAINTING: Jan 27 - Apr 14, 6:30-8 p.m. weekly on Tuesday. Location: 135 Church St./Burlington. Cost: $245 nonmembers, $220.50 BCA members. *Begin with the basics of drawing and transition to painting with oils. Learn how to apply composition, tonal aspects, form, color theory and many painting techniques. This supportive class will have a nice balance of studio time, group discussion and critique. BCA will provide palettes, easel, and drying racks.*

DROP IN: ADULT LIFE DRAWING: Jan 12 - May 18, 6:30-8:30 p.m. weekly on Monday. Burlington. Cost: $8/session. *This drop-in class is open to all levels and facilitated by a BCA staff member and professional model. Please bring your own drawing materials and paper. No registration necessary. Purchase a Life Drawing class card for $40 and get the 6th visit for free. PAIR with Figure Drawing Basics.*

DROP IN: FAMILY CLAY: Jan 16 - May 15, 5:30-7:30 p.m. weekly on Friday. Location: 250 Main St./Burlington. Cost: $8 per visit (material fees vary). *Learn wheel and handbuilding techniques at BCA's clay studio. Make plates, cups and amazing sculptures. Staff will give wheel and handbuilding demonstrations throughout the evening. If you want to keep something, you can bisque and glaze it for up to $3 per item. No registration necessary.*

DROP IN: POLLYWOG PRESCHOOL: Jan 15 - May 14, 9:30-11:30 a.m. weekly on Thursday. Burlington. Cost: $128 nonmembers, $115.20 BCA members. *This popular drop-in program introduces young children to artistic explorations in a multi-media environment that is both creative and social. Participants will work with homemade play dough, paint, yarn, ribbon, paper and more. Parents must accompany their children. All materials provided. No registration necessary. Limit 12.*

DROP IN: TADPOLE PRESCHOOL: Jan 13 - May 15, 9:30-11:30 a.m. weekly on Tuesdays & Fridays. Burlington. Cost: $6 per parent/child pair, $3/per additional sibling. Ages 1-5 yrs. *This popular drop-in program introduces young children to artistic exploration in a multimedia environment that is both creative and social. Participants will work with homemade play dough, paint, yarn, ribbon, paper and more! Parents must accompany their children. All materials provided. No registration necessary.*

DROP IN: TEEN CLAY (11+): Jan 16 - May 15, 7:30-10 p.m. weekly on Friday. Location: 250 Main St./Burlington. Cost: $6, per visit. Teens only. *Teens-bring your old clothes and some tunes and come create. Staff will show you how to hand build or how to use the wheel. Clay for practice and fun is free. If you want to keep something, you can bisque and glaze it for $3 per item. No registration necessary.*

PHOTOSHOP FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS: Jan 21 - Feb 25, 6-8 p.m. weekly on Wednesday. Burlington. Cost: $185, $166.50 BCA members. *Create an organized workflow from initial image capture in your camera through final edited file in this comprehensive digital imaging class. Importing your images from camera to computer, organizing files, sizing and saving, image processing/editing techniques and more will be covered using Adobe Photoshop. Prerequisite: Basic camera and computer skills.*

PRINT: SILKSCREEN I: Feb 2 - Mar 23, 7-9 p.m. weekly on Monday. Location: 250 Main St./Burlington. Cost: $190 nonmembers, $170 BCA members. *Design and silkscreen posters, t-shirts, fine art prints and more. You will be exposed to a variety of techniques for creating prints using hand-drawn, photographic or digital imagery. Learn how to apply photo emulsion, how to use a silkscreen exposure unit, and print images with water-based inks. Some materials included. Over 20 hrs/week of open studio time to practice. Limit 8.*

BCA
BURLINGTONCITYARTS
Call 802-865-7166 for info
or register online at
BurlingtonCityArts.com
Teacher bios are also
available online

art

ART CLASSES AT CVUHS HINESBURG: 150 winter offerings from January-March for all ages. Location: 10 min. from exit 12/Hinesburg. Info 802-482-7194, www.cvuhs.org/access. *Watercolor Beginners Drawing, Painting w/ Water Soluble Oils, B&W Darkroom, Intermediate Calligraphy, Art Portfolio Prep, Color Play for Gardeners, Circus Arts, Culinary arts: One night classes, Dim Sum, Moroccan, Indian, Thai, Szechuan, Risotto, Baking w/ Olive Oil, Flatbreads/Pizza, Homemade Soups. Low cost, limited sizes, guaranteed. Materials incl.*

body

BODY & MIND AT CVUHS HINESBURG: 150 winter offerings from January-March for all ages. Location: 10 min. from exit 12/Hinesburg. Info 802-482-7194, www.cvuhs.org/access. *Core Strength Weight Training, Beginner & advanced Yoga, Swing or Ballroom, Tap Dance, Pennywhistle, Intermediate Guitar, West African Dance & Djembe Drumming, Dance Aerobics, Movement/Theater Lab, Aromatherapy: 4 choices, Natural Facials, Meditation, Circus Arts. Low cost, hands-on, excellent instructors, limited sizes guaranteed. Materials incl. Senior Discount 65+.*

business

START UP: Location: 346 Shelburne Rd./Burlington. Cost: $1,595 15-week course, scholarships available. Info: Mercy Connections, Lorna Lyons, 802-846-7338, llyons@mercyconnections.org, www.wedp.org. *Time for a job change? WEDP can help. Create a job for yourself doing what you love. It's time to take that next step toward business ownership. Call now for application and interview times. Learn valuable business skills as you write a bank-ready business plan.*

classes »

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computers

COMPUTERS AT CVUHS HINESBURG: 150 winter offerings from January-March for all ages. Location: 10 min. from exit 12/Hinesburg. Info: 802-482-7194, www.cvuhs.org/access. *MS Word & Excel Basics, Excel up: The Next Steps, Excel Data Analysis, Web Site Design that Works, Dreamweaver Advanced Web Design, Graphic Design w/ InDesign, Keyboarding, iPods & iTunes, Slideshow Presentations, Publisher, Windows Vista Demo & many more. Low cost, limited sizes, guaranteed. Materials included with few exceptions.*

craft

CRAFTS AT CVUHS HINESBURG: 150 winter offerings from January-March for all ages. Location: 10 min. from exit 12/Hinesburg. Info: 802-482-7194, www.cvuhs.org/access. *Woodworking, 3 pottery classes (Pitchers, Platter & Bowls, Mosaic Butterfly Tile, Mosaic Flowerpot), Shaker Oval Box-Nesting Set, Turning a Wooden Spoon, Rug Hooking, Sewing, Rustic Furniture, Adult Chair or Loveseat, Cake Decorating 1 & 2, Knitting, Old Fashion Soap Making. Low cost, excellent instructors, limited sizes, guaranteed. Materials incl.*

dance

BALLROOM DANCE CLASSES: First Step Dance offers Ballroom Dance classes in Burlington & Shelburne on Monday & Tuesday and holds Ballroom practice sessions in Burlington on Thursday. Ballroom Dance Social on the 2nd Friday of each month. Info: 802-598-6757, www.FirstStepDance.com. *Beginning classes repeat each month, and intermediate classes vary from month to month. As with all of our programs, everyone is encouraged to attend, and no partner is necessary. Come alone, or come with friends, but come out and dance.*

DANCE STUDIO SALSALINA: Burlington. Cost: $12/class. Info: Victoria, 802-598-1077, info@salsalina.com. *Salsa classes, nightclub-style. One-on-one, group and private, four levels. Beginner walk-in classes Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Argentinean tango class and social, Fridays, 7:30 p.m., walk-ins welcome. No dance experience, partner or pre-registration required, just the desire to have fun. Drop in any time and prepare for an enjoyable workout.*

design/build

YESTERMORROW DESIGN/BUILD SCH.: Location: Rte. 100/Warren. Cost: $300/2-day class. Scholarships & gift certificates available. Info: Yestermorrow Design/Build School, 802-496-5545, info@yestermorrow.org, www.yestermorrow.org. *Super Insulation for net-zero energy, Jan. 10-11: principles of heat loss, building performance, effective insulation & weatherization windows & heating. Do-it-yourself home energy audit, Jan. 31-Feb.1: learn to find problems and fix them like the pros do - from weatherstripping to appliances. Sign up for both classes get 15% off total!*

dreams

INTRODUCTION TO DREAMWORK: Jan. 11 - Feb. 1, 2-4 p.m., Weekly on Sunday. Waterbury. Cost: $80. Info: Sue, 802-244-7909. *Get a basic orientation to an essential practice of the spiritual journey. Learn over a dozen techniques in this workshop that is more experiential than intellectual. Led by Sr. Sue Mehrtens, teacher and author.*

drumming

BURLINGTON TAIKO CLASSES: Location: 208 Flynn Ave./Burlington. Info: Burlington Taiko, 802-999-4255, classes@burlingtontaiko.org, www.burlingtontaiko.com. *Beginning classes Tuesdays. Kids, 4:30-5:20 p.m., $47/8 weeks. Adults, 5:30-6:20 p.m., $53/8 weeks. Session begins 10/28. Advanced Beginner/Ensemble class meets weekly on Mondays at 5:30 & 6:50 p.m., $48/6 weeks, beginning 10/27. Gift certificates are available! For a full schedule of classes or more info, go online or email.*

education

DAY/NIGHT U AT CVUHS HINESBURG: 150 winter offerings from January-March for all ages. Location: 10 min. from exit 12/Hinesburg. Info: 802-482-7194, www.cvuhs.org/access. *Five-evening classes in Genealogy in absolute poor genes, Dave Ely, Maple History Through Food, Doris O'Donnell, Learn Knots for Life, Sports Hobbyist, John Bennett, 1900 Miles on Canal, Bill Mares, Art Portfolio Prep, The Sweeney, Winter Hiking and Camping, Voice-Over Workshop w/ Dan Levine on March 9. Senior Discount 65+*

empowerment

EMPOWERMENT AT CVUHS HINESBURG: 150 winter offerings from January-March for all ages. Location: 10 min. from exit 12/Hinesburg. Info: 802-482-7194, www.cvuhs.org/access. *Beekeeping with Bill Mares, Foreign Policy with Terry Ryan, Interior Design, Get Published, Baby Sitting by Bob Moss, CPR/First Aid, Horsemanship, Chess, Tree Disease, Financial Management, Shamanic Journeying, Pruning Trees & Shrubs, Myers-Briggs typing, Fundraising. Low cost, limited sizes, guaranteed. Senior Discount 65+*

INTRO TO FINGERPRINT ANALYSIS: Jan. 27 - Feb. 17, 7-8 p.m., weekly on Wednesday. Waterbury. Cost: $75 incl. personal fingerprint recording & consultation. Info: Janet, 802-279-8554, www.mackeh@hotmail.com. *Learn to decipher your prints, define your life purpose and identify what might be keeping you from living your higher purpose. Led by Janet Savage, master hand analyst.*

gardening

2009 VT MASTER GARDENER COURSE: Feb. 3 - Apr. 28, 6-9 p.m., Weekly on Tuesday, with White River Junction. The class in Chittenden county is full. Info: 802-656-9562, master.gardener@uvm.edu, www.uvm.edu/mastergardener. *Learn the fundamentals of plant and soil science and home gardening application. Classes focus on a variety of horticultural topics such as vegetable and flower gardening, botany, soils, plant diseases, entomology, invasive plants and more. Insight by UVM faculty and experts from Vermont horticultural agencies, class fills quickly.*

STONE WALL WORKSHOPS: Location: 2408 Shelburne Falls Rd./Hinesburg. Cost: $100/1-day workshop. Info: Queen City Soil & Stone, 802-318-2411, www.queencitysoilandstone.com. *Learn the basic techniques for building dry-laid stone walls, with a special focus on stone native to Vermont. Hands-on workshops are held inside warm greenhouses in Hinesburg. $100 for one-day workshops on selected Saturdays in January and February 2009. Space is limited, call or email for registration information.*

herbs

WISDOM OF THE HERBS SCHOOL: Wild Edible Intensive 2009: Enhancing Local Food Security. Class meets in two terms, three Sundays each term, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Spring term 5/24, 6/14 & 7/12, 2009. Summer Term 8/9, 8/30 & 10/4, 2009. Tuition $440 both terms or $240 each term. $50 nonrefundable deposit each term. VSAC non-degree grants avail. Wisdom of the Herbs 2009: 8 weekends: May 16-17, June 6-7, June 27-28, July 18-19, Aug. 15-16, Sept. 12-13, Oct. 10-11, Nov. 7-8. Tuition $1750. Nonrefundable deposit $250. Discounted tuition for early registration paid in full one month before class begins. VSAC non-deg. ee grants available. South Woodbury. Info: Annie McCleary, Director, 802-456-8122, annie@wisdomoftheherbsschool.com, www.WisdomOfTheHerbsSchool.com. *Unique experiential programs embracing wild plants, holistic health and sustainable living skills, valuable tools for living on the Earth in these changing times. Learn through herb walks and nature adventures, communion with nature, hands-on wild harvesting and preparation of wild edibles and herbal home remedies, with intention and gratitude.*

jewelry

BEGINNING JEWELRY: Jan. 27 - Mar. 17, 6-8:30 p.m., weekly on Tuesdays. Location: 64 Harbor Rd./Shelburne. 8-week class. Info: Shelburne Art Center, 802-985-3648, www.shelburneartcenter.org. *Focus on the acquisition of jewelry skills and techniques while learning the art of fine craftsmanship. Each student will complete a series of practice pieces before designing and creating a wearable, finished piece of jewelry. Members $200, nonmembers $230, materials $45. See all metals classes online.*

kids

KIDS CLASSES CVUHS HINESBURG: Winter offerings from January-March. Location: 10 min. from exit 12/Hinesburg. Info: 802-482-7194, www.cvuhs.org/access. *Music Seeds for newborn, 2 yrs. old & 2-5 yrs. old, Music Games for ages 4-8, DJ & Slam Poetry ages 10 & up, Parenting the Joy of Reading, Stroller Strides Parent Workout, We Kid, Fastrawsd Sugar Cookies, Valentine Decorated Cookies, Cooking together 3rd-5th grade w/ adult: Mena & Sauvé.*

language

LANGUAGE AT CVUHS HINESBURG: 150 winter offerings from January-March. Location: 10 min. from exit 12/Hinesburg. Info: 802-482-7194, www.cvuhs.org/access. *Italian for travelers beginner & intermediate, Beginner French 2 levels, Conversational Immersion French, Beginning Spanish 3 levels, Advanced Spanish Immersion, Beginning Mandarin, Intermediate Mandarin. Low cost, hands-on, excellent instructors, limited class size, guaranteed. Materials included w/ few exceptions. Senior Discount 65+*

martial arts

AIKIDO: Adult introductory classes begin on the first Tuesday of the month. Location: 257 Pine Street/Burlington. Info: 802-951-8900, aikivt.org. *This traditional Japanese martial art emphasizes circular flowing movements and pinning and throwing techniques. Visitors are always welcome. Gift certificates are available.*

MARTIAL WAY SELF DEFENSE CTR: Colchester. 1st instructory class. Info: 802-893-8893. *Day and evening classes for adults. Afternoon and Saturday classes for children. Group and private lessons. Kempo, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Arnis and Wing Chun Kung Fu.*

VERMONT BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU: Monday-Friday 6-9 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. Location: 55 Leroy Road/Williston. Info: 802-660-4072, www.bjjusa.com. *Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu is a complete martial-arts system: it enhances balance, flexibility, strength, cardiorespiratory fitness and builds personal courage and self-confidence. Vermont Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu offers Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and self defense classes, Boxing, Muay-Thai Kickboxing and MMA for all levels. Head instructor is five-time Brazilian Champion Rickie Jimeno, certified 6th Degree Black Belt under Carlson Gracie. Classes for men, women and children. First class is free.*

meditation

LEARN TO MEDITATE: Meditation instruction available Sunday mornings 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. or by appointment. The Shambhala Cafe meets the first Saturday of each month for meditation and discussions, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. An Open House occurs every third Wednesday evening of each month, 7-9 p.m., which includes an intro to the center, a short dharma talk and socializing. Location: 187 So. Winooski Ave./Burlington. Info: 802-658-6795, www.burlingtonshambhalactr.org. *Through the practice of sitting still and following your breath as it goes out and dissolves, you are connecting with your heart. By simply letting yourself be, as you are, you develop genuine sympathy toward yourself. The Burlington Shambhala Center offers meditation as a path to discovering gentleness and wisdom.*

metal/stained glass

COMPREHENSIVE STAINED GLASS: Jan. 15 - Mar. 12, 6-8:30 p.m., weekly on Thursdays. Location: 64 Harbor Rd./Shelburne. 8 weeks. Info: Shelburne Art Center, 802-985-3648, www.shelburneartcenter.org. *Create a beautiful stained-glass window panel or lampshade. Learn the Tiffany copperfoil technique and the traditional lead came method through demonstrations and hands-on practical experience, including pattern selection, design, glass selection, glass cutting, project assembly and finishing. For beginning and intermediate crafters. Members $245, nonmembers $270, materials $35.*

painting

EXPLORING ACRYLICS: Jan. 28 - Mar. 4, 6:30-9 p.m., Weekly on Wednesday. Location: 64 Harbor Rd./Shelburne. Info: Shelburne Art Center, 802-985-3648, www.shelburneartcenter.org. *Painting with acrylics is primarily a process of layering, and in this studio course students will practice a variety of these techniques. After an introduction to still life painting, students are encouraged to pursue their own individual projects. 6-week class. Members $170, nonmembers $190, materials list. See all our art classes, www.shelburneartcenter.org.*

photography

DIGITAL CAMERA CVUHS HINESBURG: 150 winter offerings from January-March for all ages. Location: 10 min. from exit 12/Hinesburg. Info: 802-482-7194, www.cvuhs.org/access. *Digital Camera Fundamentals, Enhance Digital Photographs, Create Digital Compositions, Advanced Digital Photography Workshops, Adobe Photoshop Elements: 3 choices of levels, Digital Video Vacation. Senior Discount 65+*

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 and similar Vermont statutes which make it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status, handicap, presence of minor children in the family or receipt of public assistance, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. The newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. Any home seeker who feels he or she has encountered discrimination should contact the:

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Boston, MA
02222-1092
(617) 565-5309
OR
Vermont Human Rights Commission
135 State St. Drawer 33
Montpelier, VT 05633-6301, 800-416-2010
Fax 802 828-2480

This week's puzzle answers. Puzzles on page 47a.

9	7	4	6	2	1	3	5	8
8	6	1	3	5	7	4	9	2
3	5	2	9	8	4	7	1	6
5	2	9	8	4	6	1	7	3
7	3	6	5	1	9	2	8	4
4	1	8	2	7	3	5	6	9
6	4	5	7	9	2	8	3	1
2	8	3	1	6	5	9	4	7
1	9	7	4	3	8	6	2	5

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classes

pilates

ABSOLUTE PILATES: Affordable, invigorating group mat classes and 1-on-1 sessions that rock your body, not your wallet. Location: 12 Gregory Drive, Suite 1/ South Burlington. Info: 802-310-2614, www.absolutepilatesvt.com. *Tone, stretch and strengthen with certified classical Pilates & Pilates Instructor Lynne Martone. Sculpt a great new body in fun group mat classes or private lessons on reformer. Wonder chairs and towers will be an attractive, welcoming home in the works. Focus will be standing movement to challenge stamina, coordination and balance. Visit our website for pricing, class times and specials.*

NATURAL BODIES PILATES: Enjoy Pilates Mat and Reformer, Ballet Barre, and Integrative Movement classes. Or combine all three in our ultimate class. Private sessions, class cards and per class rates available. Free group introductions, and special rates on private introductions by appointment. Location: 4a Hall mark Dr./Colchester. Info: Lucille Dyer, 802-863-3369, lucille@naturalbodiespilates.com, www.naturalbodiesPilates.com. *Shape your whole body while relieving stress and improving your health. Enjoy expert instruction in a supportive environment. Benefit from Lucille Dyer's 30 years' teaching experience to develop your awareness, strength and ease of movement, all within a professionally equipped studio. Classes and private sessions are personalized, enlivening and fun.*

PILATES SPACE: Location: 208 Flynn Ave. (across from the antique shops, near Oakledge Park)/ Burlington. A Division of All Wellness, LLC. Many packages/pricing options to suit your budget. Please call for pricing details. Info: 802-863-9900, www.pilatesspace.net. *We invite all bodies, all ages and all abilities to experience our welcoming atmosphere with fun, caring instructors and light-filled studio. We offer Pilates privates, semiprivates and group classes, physical therapy, holistic health counseling, craniosacral therapy and Anusara-inspired yoga. First mat class is free. Also, please join us for a free introduction to the reformer the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 — just call to sign up.*

pottery

WHEEL THROWING: Tuesdays or Thursdays. Location: 64 Harbor Rd./Shelburne. Info: Shelburne Art Center, 802-985-3648, www.shelburneartcenter.org. *Learn the basics of throwing clay on the potter's wheel while becoming familiar with the clay process from wheel to kiln. Two options, 8 weeks: Tuesdays, Jan. 20-Feb. 17, 6-8:30 p.m., or Thursdays, Jan. 22-Feb. 19, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Members $195, nonmembers $215, materials $60. Ten-week classes available. See all clay classes online.*

pregnancy

IT'S CONCEIVABLE/FERTILITY: Location: 144 Elm Haven Shores/ Shelburne. Ongoing. In-home or in-office visits. Infertility. Info: Champlain Hypnosis, 802-989-6444, www.champlainhypnosis.com. *Hypnofertility: a program which supports the entire fertility process (naturally or medically assisted) can help. Recent studies by Dr. Levitas in the Journal of Fertility and Sterility conclude that infertile women utilizing hypnosis techniques with IVF have double the conception rate as compared to IVF alone. Read more: www.champlainhypnosis.com.*

snowkiting

SNOWKITING LESSONS: Daily lessons while ice is safe (generally January-April). South Hero/ Milton. Cost: $95, 3-hour beginner class ($85 for 2-hour advanced). Info: Stormboarding, Rachael Miller, 802-578-4188, rachael@stormboarding.com, www.stormboarding.com. *Start snowkiting during your first lesson. Use the same skis, skate or snowboard as on the mountain. We provide expert, current, professional, fun instruction and modern gear. Great for skiers/riders ages 10 to no-limit, onsite or go big. Makes an excellent gift. Get gear discount after lesson. Lesson/gear gift certificates available.*

spirituality

DEVELOPING SPIRITUAL LITERACY: Jan. 17 - Mar. 14, 9-12 p.m. weekly on Saturday. Waterbury. Cost: $150. Info: Sue, 802-244-7403. *Learn to read the book of the world and recognize the many ways of spiritual guidance all around you. Led by Dr. Sue Mehrtens.*

tai chi

SNAKE STYLE TAI CHI CHUAN: Beginner classes, Sat. mornings & Wed. evenings. Call to view a class. Location: 100 Church Street/Burlington. Info: 802-864-7902, www.ipfamily.org. *The Yang Snake Style is a dynamic tai chi method that combines the spine while stretching and strengthening the core body muscles. Practicing this ancient martial art increases strength, flexibility, vitality, peace of mind and martial skill.*

TAI CHI/MONTPELIER: Location: 64 Main St., 3rd floor/Montpelier. Cost: $120, 16-week semester. Info: Ellie Hayes, 802-456-1983. *Hwa Yu style Tai Chi features slow, fluid movement, as well as knowing & grounding/circulating intrinsic energy. Regular practice improves balance, flexibility, ease, tranquility. Class provides an opportunity for beginning and advanced students to interact and develop mentoring relationships. Instructor Ellie Hayes has been teaching Tai Chi since 1974.*

wood

1001 WOODWORKING BEGINNING: Jan. 14 - Mar. 23, 6:30-9:30 p.m. weekly on Mondays. Location: 64 Harbor Rd./Shelburne. 10-week class. Info: Shelburne Art Center, 802-985-3648, www.shelburneartcenter.org. *Learn the basics of furniture-making while creating a coffee table. This class will prepare you for more advanced efforts while providing a sound footing in wood properties, furniture design and proper use of machine/hand tools. Members $275, nonmembers $300, materials $80. Complete listing of woodworking classes and workshops available online.*

yoga

BRISTOL YOGA AND AYURVEDA: Daily Ashtanga yoga classes for all levels. Special monthly workshops on yoga, Ayurveda, diet and nutrition, breathing and meditation. Private sessions in yoga or Ayurvedic consultations available by appointment. Bristol. Cost: $14 drop-in, $110/10 classes or $100/ monthly pass. Info: 802-482-6547, www.bristolyoga.com. *The classical form of yoga incorporates balance, strength and flexibility to steady the mind, strengthen the body and free the soul. Bristol Yoga is directed by Christine Hoar, who was blessed and authorized to teach by Sri K Pattabhi Jois of Mysore, India, holder of the Ashtanga lineage.*

BARRE YOGA AT THE HUB STUDIO: Barre. Info: 802-272-8923, www.thehubstudio.org. *Monday, 9 a.m. Kripalu Gentle/Moderate, 4:45 p.m. Vinyasa Moderate. Wednesday, 6 p.m. Kripalu Moderate. Friday, 9 a.m. Vinyasa Moderate. Gentle Yoga/Pilates all levels, 5 p.m. Vinyasa Vigorous. Saturday, 9 a.m. Kripalu Vigorous. Check website or call for full descriptions, special events, updates & cancellations.*

COPPER CRANE YOGA: Winter Solstice Yoga Workshop 12/21. Boxing Day Yoga 12/26. Location: 174 Main St./Vergennes. Cost: $14 drop-in, $60/5-class card, $110/10-class card, $200/20-class card. Info: 802-877-3013, coppercraneyoga.com. *Individual, group and custom yoga classes. Thai Yoga Bodywork and Zero Balancing sessions by appointment. Copper Crane provides wise and compassionate teaching to strengthen the body, uplift the heart and calm the mind. Be yourself here. Copper Crane is directed by Carolyn Conner, RYT Advanced Certified Thai Yoga Bodywork practitioner.*

EVOLUTION YOGA: Mondays, 4:45 p.m. Class is sliding scale $4-$10. Sat. & Sun. day classes at 4:30 p.m. Location: 20 Kilburn Street/Burlington. Check out our added location at Eastern View, 185 Tilley Drive, South Burlington. Cost: $14, single class, $130/10-class card, $72/1 hr class, $117/10 class card for 1 h classes. Community classes donation $5-$10. Info: 802-864-9642, www.evolutionvt.com. *Vinyasa, Anusara-Inspired, Kripalu and Iyengar classes for all levels, plus babies and kids yoga. Prepare for birth and strengthen post-partum with pre/post-natal yoga. Reduced-price community classes offered 3 times a week.*

THE STUDIO AT THE FIELD HOUSE: Daily yoga & pilates classes for all levels. Drop-ins welcome, no membership required at the Athletic Club. Cost: $14 drop-in, $50/month (8 classes). Special Field House Athletic Club Memberships are also available. Info: 802-985-4404, www.shelburneathleticclub.com. *Vinyasa, Iyengar, Anusara, Yin, Yoga & Kripalu classes as well as reformer mat & sauna Pilates.*

YOGA VERMONT: Daily drop-in classes: plenty of choices, open to all levels, two locations, Burlington. Cost: $14 drop-in, $116/10 class card, $130/month pass. Info: 802-660-9718, www.yogavermont.com. *Six-week Skis and Rider class, six-week Intro to Ashtanga, Monthly Restorative Adaptive Yoga, Yoga Instructor Training Course and more listed on website. Gift certificates available. For the latest, check out our blog: http://yogavermont.typepad.com.*

legals

STATE OF VERMONT
CHITTENDEN COUNTY, SS.
CHITTENDEN SUPERIOR COURT
DOCKET NO. S0768-08 CnC

HSBC Bank USA, N.A. as Trustee,
for Nomura Asset Acceptance
Corporation Mortgage Pass
Through Certificates,
Series 2006-AR4
Plaintiff
v.
Heidi A. Martin, Mortgage
Electronic Registration Systems
Inc., as nominee for Capital One
Home Loans, LLC
And Occupants residing at
4 Trenn Avenue #13, Essex,
Vermont,
Defendants

NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given Columbia Home Loans, LLC to Heidi A. Martin dated July 12, 2006 and recorded in Volume 546 Page 164 of the Land Records of the Town of Essex, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purposes of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 PM on January 7, 2009, at 4 Trenn Avenue #13, Essex, Vermont all and singular the premises described in said mortgage:

To Wit:
Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Scott J. Anderson and Virginia L. Anderson by Warranty Deed of Jeralynn R. Clark dated July 26, 2001 of record at Book 396 page 1774 of the City of Barre Land Records.

Terms of Sale: $10,000.00 to be paid in cash by purchaser at the time of sale, with the balance due at closing. Proof of financing for the balance of the purchase to be provided at the time of sale. The sale is subject to taxes due and owing to the Town of Essex.

Other terms to be announced at the sale or inquire at Lobe & Fortin, 30 Kimball Ave., Ste. 306, South Burlington, VT 05403, 802-660-9000.

HSBC Bank USA, N.A. as Trustee,

By: Corey J. Fortin, Esq.
Lobe & Fortin, PLC
30 Kimball Ave., Ste. 306
South Burlington, VT 05403

STATE OF VERMONT
CHITTENDEN COUNTY, SS.
CHITTENDEN SUPERIOR COURT
DOCKET NO. S0025-08 CnC

Nationstar Mortgage, LLC
Plaintiff
v.
Vickie Morris, James Barbour And
Occupants residing at
8 Victory Drive, South Burlington, Vermont,
Defendants

NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Nationstar Mortgage, LLC to Vickie Morris dated July 26, 2007 and recorded in Volume 784 Page 358 of the Land Records of the Town of South Burlington, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purposes of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 3:00 PM on January 14, 2009, at 8 Victory Drive, South Burlington, Vermont all and singular the premises described in said mortgage:

To Wit:
All the same lands and premises conveyed to Jay Morris and Vickie Morris by Warranty Deed of James A. Thibault, Jr. and Jacqueline L. Thibault, dated October 12, 2007 and Recorded in Volume 298 at Pages 423-424 of the Land of Records of the City of South Burlington.

Terms of Sale: $10,000.00 to be paid in cash by purchaser at the time of sale, with the balance due at closing. Proof of financing for the balance of the purchase to be provided at the time of sale. The sale is subject to taxes due and owing to the Town of South Burlington.

Other terms to be announced at the sale or inquire at Lobe & Fortin, 30 Kimball Ave., Ste. 306, South Burlington, VT 05403, 802-660-9000.

Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

By: Joshua B. Lobe, Esq.
Lobe & Fortin, PLC
30 Kimball Ave., Ste. 306
South Burlington, VT 05403

STATE OF VERMONT
CHITTENDEN COUNTY, SS.
CHITTENDEN SUPERIOR COURT
DOCKET NO. S0386-08 CnC

LaSalle Bank National Association, as Trustee,
Plaintiff
v.
John Workman, Essex Paint & Carpet, Inc. And Occupants residing at 47 Main Street, Essex Junction, Vermont,
Defendants

NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by First Franklin Financial Corp. to John Workman dated January 13, 2003 and recorded in Volume 527 Page 734 of the Land Records of the Town of Essex Junction, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purposes of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:30 P.M. on January 7, 2009, at 47 Main Street, Essex Junction, Vermont all and singular the premises described in said mortgage:

To Wit:
Being a portion of lands and premises as conveyed to Allyn J. McDonald by Warranty Deed of Patricia M. Mercier, dated March 3, 1987 and recorded on March 24, 1987 in Volume 314 at Page 41 of the Town of Essex Land Records.

Terms of Sale: $10,000.00 to be paid in cash by purchaser at the time of sale, with the balance due at closing. Proof of financing for the balance of the purchase to be provided at the time of sale. The sale is subject to taxes due and owing to the Town of Essex Junction.

Other terms to be announced at the sale or inquire at Lobe & Fortin, 30 Kimball Ave., Ste. 306, South Burlington, VT 05403, 802-660-9000.

LaSalle Bank National Association, as Trustee

By: Corey J. Fortin, Esq.
Lobe & Fortin, PLC
30 Kimball Ave., Ste. 306
South Burlington, VT 05403

STATE OF VERMONT
CHITTENDEN COUNTY, SS.
CHITTENDEN SUPERIOR COURT
DOCKET NO. S0474-08 CnC

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Accredited Home Lenders, Inc.,
Plaintiff
v.
Sean M. McGrath And Occupants residing at
1474 Essex Road f/k/a 334 Essex Road, Williston, Vermont,
Defendants

NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Accredited Home Lenders, Inc. to Sean M. McGrath dated April 12, 2004 and recorded in Volume 390, Page 746 of the Land Records of the Town of Williston of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purposes of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:30 P.M. on January 7, 2009, at 1474 Essex Road f/k/a 334 Essex Road, Williston, Vermont all and singular the premises described in said mortgage:

To Wit:
Being all and the same land and premises conveyed to Sean M. McGrath by Warranty Deed of Rodney M. Mayo dated April 12, 2004 and recorded April 14, 2004 in Volume 390 at Page 774 of the Town of Williston Land Records.

Terms of Sale: $10,000.00 to be paid in cash by purchaser at the time of sale, with the balance due at closing. Proof of financing for the balance of the purchase to be provided at the time of sale. The sale is subject to taxes due and owing to the Town of Williston.

Other terms to be announced at the sale or inquire at Lobe & Fortin, 30 Kimball Ave., Ste. 306, South Burlington, VT 05403, 802-660-9000.

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
as nominee

By: Corey J. Fortin, Esq.
Lobe & Fortin, PLC
30 Kimball Ave., Ste. 306
South Burlington, VT 05403

support groups

ONE CALL: A SUPPORT group finder that meets your needs. Call Vermont 2-1-1, a program of the United Way of Vermont. Within Vermont, dial 2-1-1 or 866-652-4636 (toll-free) or from outside of Vermont, 802-652-4636. Monday-Friday, 8-10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

▸▸sevendaysvt.com [click on classifieds]

Show and tell
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BEREAVED PARENTS & SIBLINGS SUPPORT GROUP of the Compassionate Friends meets on the third Tuesday of each month 7-9 p.m. at the Christ Church Presbyterian, 400 Redstone Campus, UVM. Info, 660-8797. The meetings are for parents, grandparents and adult siblings who have experienced the death of a child at any age from any cause.

NEED A HUG? New support group starting. Would you like to explore personal intimacy in a safe and relaxed environment? This is accomplished by using touch for expressing and receiving tenderness. This is platonic and personal boundaries are respected. Day, time and location TBA. Jeff 318-4973 email [illegible]@aol.com

COLD SINGLES GROUP Ages 45-65 forming for friendship and fun. Chittenden County area. Activities to include weeknight/weekend dinner, bowling, hiking, snowshoeing, movies, etc. If interested email Myra at [illegible]@aol.com.

WOMEN'S CLUB For all women ages 18+. Held at the Community Center (YMCA) in Winooski every Friday from 5-7 p.m. We will have a peer support session & social fun time to do a variety of things. Head leader Jackie Koekel. Info, 802-861-2165, jackiekoekel@yahoo.com.

SEX AND LOVE ADDICTS ANONYMOUS 12 step group. Women only. Do you have problems with your relationships? Are you unable to leave an unhealthy romantic relationship? We can help. Call Valerie, 802-828-6643.

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED DEMENTIA'S SUPPORT GROUP Held monthly at The Arbors at Shelburne. For info or to register, contact Sharon at 802-985-8600.

[illegible] SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN Meets Sundays, 4-6 p.m. starting November 2nd & Thursdays, 7:30-9 p.m. starting November 6th. Location: Pathways to Well Being, 180 Battery St., Burlington. Share knowledge, experience, stories & get support. This is a FREE support group that meets every other Sunday and Thursday. Call 802-660-8? x5 for more info.

BERLIN WASHINGTON COUNTY PARENTS OF CHALLENGING CHILDREN support group for adoptive parents of children presenting serious emotional and behavioral challenges. First Wednesday of each month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Easter Seals Vermont, 641 Comstock Road, Berlin, Vermont. Info: Kristi Lenart, 802-223-4744.

CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME SUPPORT GROUP 1-3 p.m. every third Saturday. Please call or visit website for location information. 1-800-296-1445 voicemail, www.monkeywithsongs.com/vtcfids.html

WOMEN'S RAPE CRISIS CENTER Will be starting a free, confidential 10-week support group for adult female survivors of sexual violence. Please call 864-0555 ext. 19 for information.

LIVING SINGLE SUPPORT GROUP This group is a follow-up to the Divorce Recovery course held in the fall at Essex Alliance Church. If you've been through the Divorce Care class, you have an opportunity to continue to grow, heal, rebuild, and start again. Call Jane Farris for more information at 802-734-9484.

SUICIDE SURVIVORS SUPPORT GROUP For those who have lost a friend or loved one through suicide. Location: Maple Leaf Clinic, 167 North Main Street, Wallingford, 802-446-3577. 6:30-8:00 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month.

GLAFF Gay and Lesbian Adoptive and Foster Families. GLAFF provides support, education, resources and strategies to help maintain and strengthen gay and lesbian foster and adoptive families in northwestern VT. Open to all GLBTQ foster and adoptive parents and their children. Free childcare provided. The group meets on the 1st Thursday of each month. Call Mike at 846-9988 to get more information and to register.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS MEETING A group of men and women whose common purpose is recovery from co-dependence and development of healthy relationships. Weekly on Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Free. Turningpoint Center in the Marble Works, Middlebury. Info 802-247-3042. www.coda.org

MS SUPPORT GROUP A support group for people with multiple sclerosis and their caregivers. Sponsored by the Vermont Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Join others who have MS to discuss concerns, ask questions, share information and get support. Meets the first and third Wednesday of the month from 11-1:30 p.m. in Williston. For more information contact Michele at 862-4085 and leave a message.

POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Champlain Valley (NAMI-CV) is offering a free PTSD Support Group for Women on Thursdays from 12:30-2 p.m. The group focuses on both support and education about PTSD. Meetings are held at the NAMI office at 14 Healey Avenue, Suite 8, Plattsburgh. For more information or to register, call NAMI-CV at [illegible] 2681.

ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU LOVE BATTLING MULTIPLE MYELOMA? Support meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month from 4-6:30 p.m. at Hope Lodge on East Avenue, Burlington. For more information call Kay Cromie at 655-9136 or email kgcromie@aol.com

SUPPORT FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOVED ONES WITH TERMINAL ILLNESS Group forming for family members and loved ones of people with terminal illness. The group will have a spiritual base. We will offer each other support by listening as well as share creative ways to explore feelings of grief and loss through writing, prayer, etc. Please contact Holly: [illegible]@gmail.com

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS (OA) Tues. Thurs. & Sun. 6-7 p.m. in Barre, Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 39 Washington St., Barre, VT (parking in back of church/please use back entrance). Meetings are FREE and anonymous. For more info please call 802-863-2655.

RIGHTS FOR CAREGIVERS support group. If you are a part time caregiver for elders (not an agency) in Chittenden County, we need you to help everyone obtain better wages and more respect for the work we do. Contact Zoe at 802-861-6000 or zoeal944@yahoo.com

AL-ANON Family group 12-step. Thursdays, 12:20-1:20 p.m. Call AWARE at 802-472-6463 for information and to register. Free of charge. 88 High Street, Hardwick.

"WOMEN CHANGING" An educational support group on changing unhealthy patterns for survivors of domestic and/or sexual violence. Tuesdays, 1-1:15 p.m. Ongoing. Join at any time. Childcare available. Ask about Survivors of Incest Anonymous and Overeaters Anonymous. Call AWARE at 802-472-6463 for information and to register. Free of charge. 88 High Street, Hardwick.

CIRCLE PARENTS support group meeting in Rutland Monday evenings, snacks and childcare provided. Meeting is free and confidential. For more info call Heather at 802-498-7608 or 1-800-children. Meetings weekly in Winooski. For more info call Lisa at 802-893-4878 or 1-800-children. Meetings Tuesday evenings in Barre. For more info call Cody at 802-229-5724 or 1-800-children.

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF VERMONT Montpelier daytime support group meets first and third Thursday of the month at the Unitarian Church (ramp entrance) from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Montpelier evening support group meets the first Tuesday of each month at Vermont Protection and Advocacy, 141 Main St. Suite 7, in conference room #2 from 6-8 p.m. Burlington evening support group meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Comfort Inn and Suites, corner of Williston Rd. and Dorset St. from 6-8 p.m. Middlebury support group on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Patricia Hannaford Career Center. Call our helpline at 1-877-856-1772.

FORMING A NEW GROUP focused on recovery/management of addictions, compulsions and their resulting imbalances on our lives. Alternative or supplement to traditional 12 step programs. Are you having trouble moderating alcohol? Work? Sex? Television? Food? Internet? Computer games? Requires a commitment to improving your health and the ability to maintain a nonjudgmental atmosphere. Let's discover how our struggles relate and help each other work on strategies to find balance. Contact Michelle at 802-399-6414 or [illegible]

LAKE CHAMPLAIN MEN'S RESOURCE CENTER MEN'S DROP-IN SUPPORT GROUP All men welcome, weekly group w/facilitators. Open discussion format. Varied topics including relationships, work, parenting, personal growth, healing. Confidential, nonjudgmental. Open to all ethnicities, religions and sexual orientations. [illegible] House, 313 Elmwood Ave. Every Thursday 7-9 p.m. More info call Chris 434-4830.

CHITTENDEN COUNTY PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP will meet every second Tues. 6-7:30 p.m. at Fanny Allen Hospital, lower level in the Board Room.

ARE YOU HAVING PROBLEMS with debt? Do you spend more than you earn? Get help at Debtor's Anonymous. Plus Business Debtor's Anonymous. Mondays, 7-8 p.m. First United Methodist Church, North Winooski Ave., Burlington. Contact Valerie at 825-1445.

HIV SUPPORT GROUP This is a facilitated HIV/AIDS support group that aims to foster a greater sense of community and acceptance and personal growth. We are a group of survivors and, with all of our experience, will help you understand and enjoy what positive living has to offer. Friday @ 7 p.m. in the white building behind the Unitarian Church. For more info call Alan @ 318-[illegible]

LYME DISEASE Are you interested in forming a group? Please call Susan at 933-8113.

CENTRAL VERMONT SUPPORT GROUP FOR ADOPTIVE PARENTS DEALING WITH BEHAVIORAL CHALLENGES will meet at the Easter Seals office in Berlin the first Wednesday of each month from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. New members welcome. Facilitated by Kristi Lenart, RA. For more information call Kristi at 802-223-4744.

SHOPLIFTERS SUPPORT GROUP Self help support group now forming in the capital area for persons who would like to meet regularly for mutual support. This new group would meet biweekly at a time and place to be decided to discuss our struggles and ways of staying out of trouble. We'll likely use some of Terry Shulman's work as a focus for some of our discussions. Please call Tim at 802-[illegible] or email at Tsusie281 2010@[illegible].com

STARTING A WOMEN'S GROUP Ages 40+ to meet weekly to lunch and other activities such as walking, book discussions, movies, film, matinees, etc. Email Katherine at [illegible]@aol.com

MAN-TO-MAN CHAMPLAIN VALLEY PROSTATE CANCER: Support group meets 6 p.m. 2nd Tuesday of each month in the conference room of Fanny Allen Hospital, Colchester. 1-800-ACS-2345.

MITRAL VALVE PROLAPSE/DYSAUTONOMIA. Group forming for information sharing purposes. Please call 893-3153.

SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE (SOS) Open to anyone who has lost a loved one, friend, relative, neighbor, co-worker to suicide. The group provides a safe place where survivors can share their experiences and support each other. The Burlington support group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 6-7:30 p.m. at the The Comfort Inn, 5 Dorset St., South Burlington, VT. This is not a therapy group, this is a support group. There is no fee. Please contact Linda Livendale, 802-41?-8450, [illegible]@yahoo.com

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter Meeting, Bethany Church, 115 Main Street, Montpelier. Wednesdays 5:15-6:15 p.m. For info call Linda at 4?? 8345.

BEREAVED PARENT SUPPORT GROUP Every first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in [illegible], 10 Market Place, Main St. Parents, grandparents and adult siblings are welcomed. We hope to begin a Compassionate Friends Chapter in the area. Info, please call Michele at 933-1143.

CONCERNED UNITED BIRTHPARENTS- A group offering support if you have lost a child to adoption or are in reunion or have yet to begin your search. 802-849-2244.

EATING DISORDER PARENTAL SUPPORT GROUP For parents of children with or at risk of anorexia or bulimia. Meetings 7-9 p.m. third Wednesday of each month at the Covenant Community Church, Rt. 15, Essex Center. We focus on being a resource and providing reference point for old and new ED parents. More information call Peter at 802-?18-2554.

OCD SUPPORT GROUP/THERAPY GROUP Come share your experience, get support from those who have been there, learn about Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and how to reduce its symptoms. Therapist facilitated. Weekly meetings. 802-343-8114.

AUTISM Free support group for parents and caregivers of children with ASD. Montpelier 2nd Sunday of the month 3-4 p.m. at the Family Center. Call Jessica 244-1991 for childcare inquiries. More info www.autism.org

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE and Dementia support group. Held the last Tuesday of every month at Birchwood Terrace, Burlington. Info contact Stefanie Catella 863-5384.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS SUPPORT GROUP If someone in your family or one of your friends is in an abusive relationship, this new support group is designed especially for you. Info call Women Helping Battered Women 658-1996.

HAIR PULLERS SUPPORT GROUP The Vermont TTM support Group is a new support group for adult pullers (18+) affected by trichotillomania (chronic hair pulling) as well as parents of pullers. This will be a supportive, safe, comfortable and confidential environment. Meets on the 4th Monday of every month 6-7:30 p.m. First Unitarian Universalist Society, 152 Pearl St. Burlington. Info: 453-3688 or [illegible]@yahoo.com

DEPERSONALIZATION AND DEREALIZATION If you suffer from either of these chronic states, please call Info 864-4285.

DIABETES EDUCATION and Support Group of Chittenden County meets the third Thursday of every month at the Williston Federated Church 7:30-9 p.m. We often have guest speakers. Info: 847-2278.

WOMEN HELPING BATTERED WOMEN offers free, confidential, educational support groups for women who have fled, are fleeing, or are still living in a world where intimate partner violence is present. WHBW offers a variety of groups to meet the diverse needs of women and children in this community. Info: 658-1996.

VT PARENTS OF FOOD ALLERGY CHILDREN EMAIL SUPPORT TEAM. Info: contact MaryKay Hill, www.VTPFAC.com or call 802-31?-[illegible]

MIXED GENDER COMING OUT SUPPORT GROUP Every 2nd and 4th Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Co-facilitated by supportive peers and mental health professionals and open to all lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning adults age 23 and up. Check out this group meeting at R.U.1.2?

TRANS SOCIAL AND SUPPORT GROUP: First Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Looking for peer support among other transgendered folks? Need a safe space to relax and be yourself? Check out this group meeting at R.U.1.2?

TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter meeting, St. Francis Xavier School, Winooski. Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. weigh-in, 7-8 p.m. meeting. Info: call Fred or Bernice, 655-3317, or Patricia, 658-6904.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Is a group of recovering addicts who live without the use of drugs. It costs nothing to join. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using. Info: 862-4516 or visit www.cvana.org. Held in Burlington.

SEX AND LOVE ADDICTS ANONYMOUS 12-step recovery group. Do you have a problem with sex or relationships? We can help. Sunday meetings, 7-8:30 p.m. Call Randy 863-5708.

SMOKING CESSATION GROUP Wanting to kick the habit? This free five-week program helps quitters to follow through. Community Health Center of Burlington. 5:30-6:30 p.m. Free. Info: 864-6309.

DOES YOUR PARTNER/SPOUSE HAVE ADD/ADHD (Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder)? Support group meets in Burlington to share experiences, challenges, laughs, resources. Want more information? Write to: [illegible]@yahoo.com

WEDNESDAYS CIRCLE: A transpersonal support group every Wed. 7 p.m., Interharmony Community Wellness Center, Rt. 100N, Rochester, VT. Info: 767-9182. A sharing circle focusing on personal growth, transformation, spirituality and healing led by Jim Fields.

DECLUTTER'S SUPPORT GROUP: Are you ready to make improvements that feel overwhelming? Maybe 2 or 3 of us can get together to help each simplify. 453-3612.

PARENTS TOGETHER: Support group will be meeting in Rutland on Monday evenings. Snacks and childcare provided. All groups are free and confidential. Please call 1-800-CHILDREN for more information.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN who have experienced intimate partner abuse, facilitated by Battered Women's Services and Shelter of Washington County. Please call 1-877-543-9498 for more info.

AHOY BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS. Join our support group where the focus is on living, not on the disease. We are a team of dragon boaters. Learn all about this paddle sport and its health-giving, life-affirming qualities. Any age. No athletic experience needed. Call Linda at 802-434-4423 or email dragonheartvermont@gmavt.net or go to www.dragonheartvermont.org

NAKED IN VERMONT The premier Naturist/Nudist organization in Vermont offering information library, message board, chat room, Yahoo group and more. (ALL FREE!) Visit www.nakedinvermont.com

SCLERODERMA FOUNDATION New England: Info, Blythe Leonard, 878-0732.

HARD-OF-HEARING support group: I'm starting a support group for adults who have a hearing loss that affects the quality of their work/family/social life. Let's share our experiences and knowledge of hearing-aid technology. [illegible], 660-[illegible]

SKINNYDIPPERS UNITE! Visit Vermont Au Naturel. Join other naturists and like-minded people for support, discussions and more! www.vermontaunaturel.com

MENTAL ILLNESSES: The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill holds support meetings for the families and friends of the mentally ill at Howard Center, corner of Flynn and Pine. Second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 7 p.m. Park in Pine St. lot and walk down ramp. 862-6733 for info.

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, Transgender, Queer and Questioning support groups for survivors of partner violence, sexual violence and bias/hate crimes. Free and confidential. SafeSpace, 863-0003 or 866-869-7341 (toll-free).

"[illegible]" CANCER support. Every other Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. Middlebury. Call to verify meeting place. Info: 388-[illegible]. People living with cancer and their caretakers convene for support.

[illegible] SUPPORT GROUP: Mondays, 7-8 p.m. First United Methodist Church, 21 Buell St., Burlington. Saturdays, 10-11:30 a.m. King Street Youth Center, 87 King St., Burlington. Info, call Cameron, 383-3147.

Has your pet passed?
Honor his/her life with a public memorial
Unlimited memorials online at sevendaysvt.com [click on pet memorials]
For more info, contact Ashley
ashley@sevendaysvt.com or 864-5684
SEVEN DAYS Pet memorials

7D spot jobs

« find it here
www.sevendaysvt.com

deadline: Post your ads at **www.sevendaysvt.com** [click on classifieds] by 5 p m each Monday

rates: $24 05/column inch

contact info: Michelle Brown 802 865-1020 x21
michelle@sevendaysvt com

Dee PT

Full-time Physical Therapist

Dee Physical Therapy is seeking a highly motivated, mature and responsible licensed physical therapist Duties will include patient care supervision and development of clinical programs Very competitive salary and compensation package

Contact Mike Dee with resume at:
mikedee@deept.com.

BURLINGTON **FURNITURE** COMPANY

Warehouse Support Weekend Retail Operations

[illegible]

Ckelsey@burlingtonfuton com

388 Pine Street
Burlington VT 05401

DIRECT SALES

Are you an Independent Consultant for Mary Kay Avon or another network marketing company and unhappy with the support, the compensation or other issues? New direct sales company seeking leaders to sell high quality nutritional and skin care products Unlimited income Call for more information on this remarkable opportunity!

802-535-9270

The Adams Center

Licensed Psychotherapist

The Adams Center for Mind and Body LLC is expanding its practice to accommodate its client growth We have one immediate opening for a **licensed psychotherapist** with at least three years of experience post licensure We would prefer individuals with some experience working with eating disorders and an interest in working on a multidisciplinary team Interested candidates with skills in EMDR level two, hypnosis expressive arts and other mind/body psychotherapies please send resume to:

Suzanne N Adams, MA
The Adams Center for Mind and Body, LLC
1233 Shelburne Road, Pierson House 0 2
South Burlington VT 05403

The Adams Center for Mind and Body is an outpatient psychotherapy practice specializing in traditional and alternative therapies

www theadamscenter com
Phone 802-859 1577 • Fax 802-859-1571

Need to place an ad?
Call Michelle Brown
865-1020 x 21

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Behavior Interventionist - Autism

Please visit our website **www.ncssinc.org** for position details application links, additional listings and to learn more about NCSSI

Rewarding work with great wages, generous amounts of paid time off health dental and pension plan continuing education assistance and much more!
EOE

"Building Bridges in the Community"
NCSS Inc., 107 Fisher Pond Road St Albans, VT 05478

VPIRG
VERMONT'S VOICE

Vermont Public Interest Research Group

Field Associate

VPIRG is looking for a mission-driven, politically savvy grassroots organizer with strong communications and project management skills to help educate and mobilize Vermonters to defend the public interest You will grow VPIRG's grassroots activist base using a variety of tactics including online organizing, phone banking, coalition development, community-based meetings activist training and media events This is a full-time position based in Montpelier

Should have at least two years of experience in activist-oriented communications and grassroots organizing, strong writing and public-speaking skills, politically strategic, graphic design and online skills a plus A full job description is available on our website www vpirg org

Competitive salary, employer-paid health, dental and disability insurance, employer-matching IRA contributions four weeks paid vacation, plus personal days Submit cover letter and resume via e-mail to colleen@vpirg org and reference "Field Opening" in your subject line

For more info visit www.vpirg.org.
VPIRG
141 Main St. #6
Montpelier, VT 05602
v 802 223 5221 / f 802 223 6855

Planned Parenthood
of Northern New England

Be one of us . . .
because health care should be for all of us!

Part Time (30 hrs/week) **Health Care Associate** position available, to staff our health centers in Hyde Park and Waterbury We expect superior customer-service skills for our supportive patient-centered environment, and are looking for an energetic, highly motivated detail-oriented person who also has excellent organizational and communication skills, and is able to work independently Specific duties include scheduling appointments, manage medical records, answering phones, educating patient and assisting with a variety of medical services as necessary

The ideal candidate will possess a BA/BS degree or an equivalent in background and experience. Office skills and computer experience are essential. Please reply with resume and cover letter to

Employment Specialist
PPNNE
18 Low Avenue
Concord, NH 03301
or email **hresources@ppnne org**

Planned Parenthood of Northern New England welcomes diversity and is an equal opportunity employer

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2008-09 TEACHING VACANCIES
CENTER FOR TECHNOLOGY, ESSEX

SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER

Temporary part-time position available to teach two sections of U S History for the second semester of the 2008-09 school year Qualified candidates must hold a valid VT Educator license with a Social Studies endorsement (2 15), and must have met the HQT requirements for the endorsement (Schoolspring Job ID 25052)

MATH TEACHER

Temporary part time position available to teach two sections of Math Fundamentals for the second semester of the 2008-09 school year Qualified candidates must hold a valid VT Educator license with a Mathematics endorsement (2 11) and must have met the HQT requirements for the endorsement (Schoolspring Job ID 25053)

Classes for both positions are scheduled every morning (A81 and A82).

Applications only accepted electronically through **www schoolspring com** EOE

Personal Care Attendant

MONTPELIER – Personal Care Attendant for SCI/Fibromyalgia mom of 2. Cleaning, laundry, shopping, driving, childcare, bathing and dressing assistance and other everyday tasks that sometimes include medium lifting. Must be experienced in homemaking and caregiving, and must love animals. Starting at $[illegible] per hour. Flexible 22 hrs/week with minimum commitment of 6 months. Criminal check required.

Send letter of introduction/resume to [illegible]@gmail.com

Superb dental practice seeking caring and motivated individual for

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Hours can be catered to individual. Experience preferred. Experience with Eaglesoft practice management software a real plus! If you value customer service as much as we do, we'd love to hear from you!

CALL 802-985 3500
or fax your resume to
802-985 2979

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[illegible] promise of great bread production. Full time schedule starting at 11 p.m. Some Experience and punctuality an asset. For an interview call

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and leave a message.

Stewart's Bakery

Travel Consultants/Agents

Six travel consultants/agents needed immediately. bonus/commissions. Part/full time. Will train.

Call Phyllis
802-343-0331

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Companies desperately need employees to assemble products at home. No selling, any hours. $5[illegible] weekly potential. For info call:

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DEPT. VT-6011

RED HOUSE INC.

Finehomebuilding & Historic Restoration

Bookkeeper

Successful employee-owned building company looking for bookkeeper. Applicant must be proficient with Quickbooks,Excel and payroll. Experience in the building Industry beneficial. Ability to satisfy additional office management, human resources & accounting responsibilities preferred.

20-30 hours/week. Benefits available

Send cover letter & resume

Red House Inc.
PO 296,Burlington, VT 05402
or online employment@redhousebuilding.com

YESTERMORROW
DESIGN/BUILD SCHOOL

Executive Director

The Yestermorrow Design/Build School in Warren, Vermont inspires people to create a better, more sustainable world by providing hands-on education that integrates design and craft as a creative, interactive process. Yestermorrow seeks an **Executive Director** who shares our values, understands our educational mission and aspires to bring the School to a new and expanded level of influence and impact. The ideal candidate will have familiarity with architecture and sustainable design, a strong vision, an entrepreneurial spirit, and a dedication to inspired learning.

Visit www.yestermorrow.org/edsearch.htm for details. Rolling application review starts January 1.

NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR/ COMPUTER GENERALIST

Outdoor accessory distributor looking for a network administrator/computer generalist to support our network and users. Responsibilities: Win Server 2003, DNS, MS Exchange, Citrix and remote locations, PCs, printers, MS Office, SQL databases, reporting, business application. Problem solving, planning, and communication skills essential. Must be able to work independently. Occasional evening and weekends required. Min certs: A+, Network+ and MCP and 5+ years experience. Competitive benefits.

Send cover letter and resume to
Clarke Thibault
Information Systems Manager
clarkt@peregrineoutfitters.com

PEREGRINE

GALEN HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS embrace the new world of healthcare

Upgrade Implementation Consultant

The healthcare system in the U.S. is broken. Be part of the solution and join a rapidly growing Healthcare IT consulting organization that is helping to transform the way healthcare is delivered!

Galen Healthcare Solutions, a small, privately held organization with strong local roots is seeking determined individuals to help physicians use technology to enable more efficient workflows, achieve better patient outcomes and improve the overall quality of healthcare. Our philosophy is different from any other consulting company in the industry. Simply, our people first, and our clients before anything else.

The Upgrade Implementation Consultant is focused on assisting clients through the process of upgrading their Electronic Health Record. This entails helping them with product functionality, assisting with new feature design and build processes, while ensuring they have a positive experience.

You will be responsible for:

- Guiding clients through the upgrade process
- Assisting clients with system design and build activities
- Becoming Allscripts EHR functional experts

Required skills:

- Strong communication skills
- Project leadership
- Ability and desire to learn new technology

Desired skills:

- Healthcare experience (IT or clinical)
- Knowledge of a major EHR vendor's applications: Allscripts, Cerner, Epic, NextGen, GE
- Project Management experience

Earn a competitive salary while joining the booming Healthcare IT industry.

Travel: Averages 25%
Experience: 1-3 years professional or clinical experience.
Education: College educated or relevant experience specifically in the healthcare business or IT fields.
Location: Burlington, VT

Please submit resumes to: Careers@GalenHealthcare.com

Galen Healthcare Solutions | 888 GALEN 44
www.galenhealthcare.com

Accountant

Responsibilities: bursar, accounts receivable, reconciliation, payroll processing and point of contact for student financial aid. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in accounting required. Demonstrated excellence in organizational, analytical and customer-service skills. A minimum of two years accounting and Great Plains application experience preferred.

Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest along with a current resume by Wednesday, December 17th, 2008 to:

Marlene Betit, Director of Finance & Administration
36 College Street
Montpelier, VT 05602
or **Marlene.Betit@vermontcollege.edu**

Vermont College of Fine Arts is an Equal Opportunity Educator and Employer. We are committed to a multicultural environment and strongly encourage applications from women, minorities and veterans.

VERMONT COLLEGE
OF FINE ARTS

Executive Director, High Meadows Fund

Vermont focused philanthropic fund seeks energetic, entrepreneurial director. Work closely with small board guiding strategy and grantmaking to drive positive environmental outcomes in renewable energy, sustainable food systems and land use in Vermont. Current primary focus is energy and energy policy: funding work to inform better environmental decision making and promote promising demonstration projects. Identify knowledge and funding gaps, develop strategies to fill gaps, and identify grantee partners and alliances. Ideal candidate will have significant professional and leadership experience in energy, land use and/or sustainable food systems, preferably involving planning, strategy, philanthropy and/or policy work. Full job description and application information available at: **www.vermontcf.org/hmf.**

jobs

Victim's Advocate

The Washington County State's Attorney's Office in Barre Vermont has an immediate opening for a victim's advocate to work with domestic violence victims. Interested applicants should have experience in the field of domestic violence advocacy. This is a 20-hour/week grant-funded position and does not include benefits.

Interested applicants can
send a cover letter and resume to:
Thomas Kelly
Washington County State's Attorney
255 North Main Street, Suite 9
Barre, VT 05641

HowardCenter

Year-Round Weekend Respite

Year round weekend respite in your home needed for a charming young woman who loves music, movies and outings. This high school student requires intensive medical oversight, has overnight providers and after school nursing care. Best match is a single female without children living in a wheelchair accessible home. Generous tax-free stipend provided.

Please call Leah MacCarthy at 802-488-6541

[illegible] Minorities, people of color and persons with disabilities encouraged to apply. EOE/TTY. We offer competitive pay and a comprehensive benefits package to qualified employees.

Has your pet passed?

Honor [illegible] life with a public memorial. [illegible] Ashley 864-5684 [illegible]@sevendaysvt.com for more info.

SEVEN DAYS Pet memorials

Autism Support Person

We are looking for someone who can work with our 13 year-old son who has autism to be a support family/community person. It would include:

1. 15-20 hrs/week with potential for more hours. Good paying rate to start and after two month training could substantially increase. It is a full-year position.
2. The candidate must be physically and actively fit. Talents such as swimming, ice skating and team sports get noticed.
3. Candidate must be available for training in educational/home/behavioral safety.
4. Cheery, organized, fun person with a serious direction in working with this population.
5. [illegible] Burlington based. References upon request and criminal background check.
6. Write mgeorge@uvm.edu. A great opportunity!

Supply Chain Analyst

We have an immediate, full time opening for a detail oriented, proactive and energetic individual to work within our Supply Chain team on various projects. These projects are focused on improving relations with our customers by managing compliance requests and utilizing tools such as data synchronization, EDI, and customer web portals. This position also works with various departments to improve data flow within our systems and to identify process improvements within the Supply Chain department.

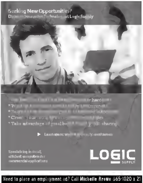
The successful candidate will possess excellent written, analytical, organizational and communication skills. The applicant will need to be proficient in Access, Excel and adaptable to new computer interfaces. Experience with Supply Chain terminology, EDI and AS400 a plus.

This person will work with: production, customer service, product management and IT. Strong interpersonal skills and focus on detail are important. A college degree, preferably in business, and prior analytical experience required. Some air travel is necessary.

This position will be based at our Montpelier Administrative Offices.

Cabot offers an excellent benefit package and a competitive starting salary.

Please send resume to:
Human Resources Department
Cabot Creamery
One Home Farm Way
Montpelier, VT 05602
Phone: (802) 229-9361 X2101
Fax: (802) 563-2173
Email: oadams@cabotcheese.com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email michelle@sevendaysvt.com

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Has your pet pasaed?

Honor his/her life with a public memorial. Contact Ashley 864-5684 ashley@sevendaysvt.com for more info.

SEVEN DAYS **Pet** memorials

Customer Service and Administrative Support

Customer service and administrative support person needed for busy ski products company in Stowe.

If you're a detail-oriented worker with good communication skills, please email your resume to **bbell@levelusa.net.**

ENJOY EACH WORKDAY WHILE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

CCS
Champlain Services

SHARED LIVING PROVIDER OPPORTUNITY

An independent woman is seeking an active, energetic roommate who can assist her in accessing the community and with learning to increase her independent living skills. She enjoys art, children, animals and shopping. Position includes a generous stipend, paid time off (respite) and ongoing support.

If you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity please contact Al Frugoli at 802-655-0511 *extension 108* or afrugoli@ccs-vt.org

Champlain Community Services
512 Troy Avenue
Colchester VT 05446

EOE

Vermont Family Network

Family Resource Coordinator *30 hrs/week*

Family support organization seeks skilled professional for the Family Infant Toddler Program in Chittenden County. Will conduct home visits, assist in the development and coordination of early intervention service plans, and communicate with multiple agencies and school districts. Candidates should have a bachelor's degree or equivalent experience, knowledge of family-centered care, early childhood development and community resources for families with young children, strong communication skills, and family experience with a child with special needs.

Submit cover letter
and resume to
Human Resources
Vermont Family Network
600 Blair Park Rd., Suite 240
Williston, VT 05495 7549
or via email to
Holly.Brooks@vtfn.org

EOE

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Call **Michelle Brown**
865-1020 x 21

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